

THE STORY OF THE UNITED  
ARMY CORPS LIAISON

By  
WILLIAM F. SHRYVE

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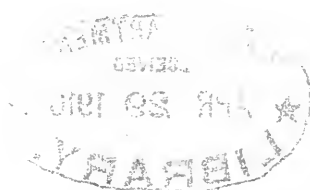
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Edward Livingston Melling



Edmund F. Johnston, 1941



# THE STORY OF THE THIRD ARMY CORPS UNION

COMPILED FROM THE ORIGINAL RECORDS

By

WILLIAM P. SHREVE

TREASURER

1885—1910

**Privately Printed**

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

1910

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3d



## EDWARD LIVINGSTON WELLING

“You filled up the gaps in our files,  
Strengthened the wavering line,  
'Stablished, continued our march.”

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## TOLD BY THE SECRETARY.



THE life of the Third Army Corps Union is nearing fifty years and in all human probability it will not be many more before the last Veteran comrade will celebrate the anniversary alone. It will, therefore, be interesting to recall the story of the organization and the forty-five reunions that have been held while yet there are a goodly number who remember them with thankful enthusiasm.

To whom first came the idea of forming a society that should be of mutual benefit to its members under the conditions imposed by the war in which we were engaged, nowhere appears in the record, but we know that on the second of September, 1863, the following named officers met at the Head Quarters of the First Division of the Third Army Corps, at Sulphur Springs, Warrenton, Virginia. If other than a verbal invitation was issued, we do not know, but it is fair to assume that the initiative may be accorded to Major General David Bell Birney, who commanded the Division. He was chosen to preside at the first meeting and Colonel William R. Brewster, who commanded the Second Brigade, Second Division, was the Secretary. The others present were Brigadier General James B. Carr, First Brigade, Second Division; Brigadier General Gershom Mott, Third Brigade, Second Division; Colonel

C. H. T. Collis (One hundred and fourteenth Pennsylvania) commanding the First Brigade, First Division; Colonel L. D. Carver (Fourth Maine) commanding the Second and Colonel Regis De Trobriand (Fifty-fifth New York) commanding the Third. Although Colonel Carver was prominent during the first three months of the life of the Union his name does not appear on the roster probably for reasons that will appear later. He was mustered out of the service on the sixteenth of December, 1863, for disability.

After the preliminary matters were done with, General Carr offered this resolution: "That an organization be formed of which all the officers of the old Third Corps shall be the members." "That a committee of three, to which shall be added the President, be appointed to draft by-laws, constitution, etc., and report on the sixth inst." On this committee were appointed Generals Carr and Mott.

The following was voted and the first meeting adjourned to September sixth. "Resolved, That the commandants of Regiments in the First and Second Divisions be invited to meet with us at our next meeting. Resolved, That this organization be known as the Third Corps Union."

It will not escape the notice of many that the first resolution adopted by this group of officers spoke of the "Old Third Corps" and that in a following one the officers of the First and Second Divisions only are named. This while not intended to reflect in any way upon the men of the Third Division, but simply to confine the membership of the Union to those who had belonged to

the Third Corps, "As we understand it," the corps as it was up to the battle of Gettysburg, nevertheless is said to have given offence to General French, who was at that time commander of the Corps, much to the disgust of the men who wore the red and white diamonds. It was at this time that he issued the wonderful order that created no little amusement and did not help to raise him in the estimation of those he intended to score. It will not be out of place if reproduced here.

"The General now commanding the Corps of Hooker, Sickles, Berry and as his dear friend dares to raise the shroud of the chivalric Kearny, needs nothing further to convince the brave and intelligent soldiers of the Corps that the efforts for preference over the reputation of brother soldiers, no matter what state or what army may claim them, when they have proved true and faithful to our Union and to the glorious flag, ought and must be admitted to the position to which by their bravery they are entitled."

Nevertheless General French became a member of the Union wearing the badge numbered eighteen.

At the second meeting, September sixth, there were present thirty-six officers. Among the names of those mentioned many are familiar to us today, as, for example, Egan, Sides, Craig, Stoughton and Danks. The permanent organization was effected by the election of the following officers. For President, General Daniel E. Sickles. Vice-President, General David B. Birney. Secretary, Captain James C. Briscoe. Corresponding Secretary, Major H. Edwin Tremain. Treasurer, General Gershom Mott.

The Constitution was adopted, providing for the usual exigencies of an association and fixing upon the fifth day of May in each year for the Annual meeting. The distinctive feature of the order, that does not appear in our constitution today, was the following declaration. "The object of this association is a benevolent one, to see that the remains of any of the members who shall die in the service are properly interred, also should the family of any member dying in service, or taken prisoner, be in need, it shall be aided from the funds."

Provision was made for "preparing a suitable badge," with the declaration that "All officers who have participated meritoriously in any of the battles in which the Third Corps has been engaged shall be eligible to membership". This was found, before the constitution was printed to be a little too broad and the following was substituted: "All officers who have belonged to the Third Army Corps and shall have participated in any of its battles, shall be eligible to membership."

A Board of Directors was elected to serve until the time of the Annual meeting, as follows. Generals Carr, Mott, Graham, Ward and Colonels Brewster and De Trobriand, and Captain Randolph of the Artillery Brigade.

The President was directed to select a committee of thirteen to draft by-laws for the government of the association, the same to be submitted at the next meeting. Of that committee not one is living today and four of the names do not appear on the roster. Colonels Tippen, Carver, Meriam



(Sixteenth Massachusetts, killed at the North Anna, May twenty-third) and the quartermaster of the Eleventh Massachusetts, George Forrest.

At a meeting of the twenty-seventh of September, the committee reported a set of By-Laws that were adopted and with the constitution there was ordered printed one thousand copies. The fee for initiation was fixed at ten dollars and the dues at six. There was one by-law providing for a Court Martial of any member against whom charges shall be made.

At the meeting on the thirtieth of September members were elected to the number of seventy-five, twelve of whom were officers of the Division and Brigade staff. The others were distributed as follows among the regiments of the Corps. Berdan Sharp Shooters, seventeen. Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, fifteen. Third Maine, ten. Fourth Maine, five. One hundred and twenty-fourth New York, eight. Eighty-sixth, New York, eight.

A design was submitted by the committee on badges and was rejected, the committee being instructed to procure another. At the following meeting, October fifth, provision was made for a certificate of membership.

A week later the army was making its way back to Centerville, and the next meeting is recorded as at Headquarters, Licking Creek, November fifth. Much more business than usual was transacted, or it may have been, which is more probable, that the report was more in detail. The design of the badge was decided upon, the committee on certificate was given permission to select the design, three hundred copies of the Army and

Navy Journal were ordered for distribution among the members, the Secretary was directed to ascertain from every member of the two divisions the names of the battles in which he had been engaged and that, with every application for membership, some one battle with the Corps be named. General Gilbert Marston, at Point Lookout, Va., was to be notified that his name will be inserted in the list of Brigadiers promoted from the Corps.

Before the next meeting the Mine Run campaign had been accomplished. December fifth the name of General Henry Prince appears as the presiding officer. Two vacancies in the Board were announced caused by the muster out of Colonel De Trobriand and the transfer of General Graham from the Department. These vacancies were filled by the election of Colonel Byron R. Pierce, Third Michigan, and Colonel J. H. Madill, One hundred and forty-first Pennsylvania. Eighteen new members were elected and for the first time the death of a member was mentioned. "Colonel Brewster announced that he had made arrangements for the removal of the body of Captain McDonough, of the Third Excelsior, (Seventy-second New York) killed at Locust Grove, November twenty-seventh, and asked that the bill be presented to the Treasurer." Colonel Brewster also moved, "That the authorized embalmers for the Union be Brown and Alexander of Washington." Although the name of Captain McDonough is the first to appear in the report of the Secretary as killed in battle, we shall find in the report of the Treasurer that a benefit was paid in behalf of Colonel Trepp one day earlier.

At this point in the record there are some score of blank pages left, as if there was some matter that was expected to be written in. As Colonel Briscoe steps down and out as the Secretary, it would seem as if room was intended for the names of the members that had been elected since the meeting of December, for from the evidence of the Treasurer's books there must have been three hundred and forty-seven members enrolled up to December first, 1863.

At the meeting of January fifth, 1864, the resignation of Captain Briscoe was accepted, as Recording Secretary, and J. Theodore Calhoun, the Surgeon in Chief, was elected to the vacancy. This ended an episode of which little was probably known outside of the Board of Directors, the particulars of which if told, would account for many errors and omissions in the records. At this meeting the records of the former one were not to be found and there is evidently an attempt to make amends for the failure by doing over again some of the work of the past. Members were elected, Captain A. Judson Clark was chosen a member of the Board, in place of Captain Randolph, the Treasurer was authorized to pay two hundred dollars each to Mrs. Trepp and Mrs. McDonough and the bill of the Army and Navy Journal for thirty dollars. The quarterly report of the Treasurer is mentioned as read, but not incorporated in the record.

At the meeting of February fifth, 1864, members were elected, a mass of routine business transacted and a disposition shown to tinker the by-laws, the same as has been in evidence ever since,

cropping out at every meeting up to 1906. A committee was appointed to collect for preservation in the archives of the Union, a history of Regiments, Batteries, Brigades and Divisions of the Corps. The approach of more active business, the making of history instead of the recording of it, prevented this committee from ever making a report. The Secretary was directed to call upon Captain Briscoe for a list of members and all papers relating to the association.

Just previous to this meeting the first lot of badges were received, but the certificates of membership were not ready, although the Treasurer offered a bill that he had received, requesting an advance of two hundred dollars for them, which he was ordered to pay.

At the meeting of March fifth, the name of M. F. Webb, Additional Paymaster, was proposed for membership and after much discussion the result of which was two in his favor, he was rejected.

A meeting on the fifteenth of March received the report of the committee on the revision of the by-laws and accepted it, but what was the nature of the report the records do not show, owing probably to the absence of the Secretary, in whose absence Captain Clark acted *pro tem*. Among the names offered as new members is that of General Charles K. Graham, which would suggest an attempt to correct the records, as he was one of the first directors. General French was also elected, but how his eligibility was shown is not stated, probably derived from the battle of Wapping Heights. An order was given to print

one thousand copies of the constitution and by-laws. If this and the former order was carried out, it would be curious to know what became of all of them.

At the meeting of April seventeenth, 1864, the question of the eligibility of Paymasters to membership was again introduced and after more debate Majors McBlair, Johnson and Webb were elected.

General Birney read a letter that he had received from E. R. Tremain of New York, as treasurer of a fund contributed by the Stock Exchange members for the relief of the sick and wounded of the Third Corps. No mention is made of the acceptance of the money, of the amount given nor of what disposition was made of it. The records of the Treasurer do not disclose that he had the disposition of it. The genesis of this fund if not indeed the genesis of the Third Army Corps Union itself, is explained by a letter written by Mr. Tremain to his son, dated July nineteen, 1863, which he has permitted to be printed in connection with this story at the end of this chapter. From that it will be seen that the movement may be traced back into the thought of our wounded General, who while on his back and receiving every care possible, sent a contribution to help his wounded soldiers.

General Ward and Colonel Brewster were appointed to make arrangements for the annual meeting, on the fifth of May, which would indicate that no immediate movement of the army was anticipated. This committee reported on the twenty-fourth but no hint of it is spread on the

record other than that the Secretary is directed "to send to each Brigade director a copy of such part of the report as does not conflict with the constitution." The treasurer was directed to keep ten badges of the Union on hand.

Needless to say that the Annual Meeting of the Society did not come off, but the annual meeting of the Blue and the Gray was called in the place of it. As at Williamsburg and at Chancellorsville, so now in the Wilderness the Third Corps on the fifth of May, 1864, faced the enemy. No more, however, the Third in name, although the men still wore the diamond badge of red and white, for they were marching nominally under the trefoil of the Second Corps, into which they had been incorporated. If the trinity was really emphasized under the union of the trefoil with the diamond it has never been any solace to recall the occurrence.

Now came the days when, if ever, the Union was to demonstrate its value by caring for its dead and wounded, and forge in the fierce heat of battle the bonds that bind the living to each other today.

It was not until the investment of Petersburg that the next meeting was held, on the fourth of July. As usual it was at the headquarters of General Birney and an interesting feature of the meeting for us of later years is that it marked the first appearance of our incomparable Secretary, Colonel Edward Livingston Welling. Henceforth the reports were not only complete but something more. Not dry detail only but alive with patriotic enthusiasm.

The returns of the election for officers and

directors held this day, (so the record runs) were canvassed with the following result. President, General Daniel E. Sickles; Vice-President, General David Bell Birney; Recording Secretary, Surgeon J. Theodore Calhoun; Corresponding Secretary, Surgeon E. L. Welling; Directors, Generals Gershon Mott; Colonel Byron R. Pierce; and Robert McAllister. The last named was designated as "Division director" but what was the distinction is unknown today.

The business that followed showed all too well the work in which we had been engaged two months. It is best to summarize it. Bills were approved for embalming the bodies of Captain James McDermott and John Phelan, both of the Seventy-third New York, and Captain LeFort of same regiment. Remittances were ordered sent to Mrs. LeFort, one hundred dollars; and Mrs. McDermott, fifty dollars; Mrs. Patrick Nolan, seventy-five dollars; Mrs. S. T. Sleeper (Eleventh New Jersey) one hundred dollars. The annual dues were reduced from five dollars to three dollars.

August fifth, 1864. The business was chiefly the consideration of applications for relief of families, most of which were laid over for investigation. One hundred dollars was ordered paid to Mrs. William C. Meriam and Mrs. George Harvey (Third, Maine).

The present owners of certificates of membership will be surprised to learn their mercantile value from the bill of Hatch & Co., presented and laid on the table, for four hundred and thirty-seven dollars, not including two hundred paid previously. This and subsequent meetings were at the head-

quarters of General Mott, owing to the assignment of General Birney to the command of the Tenth Corps Army of the James.

September fifteenth the meeting was marked by the return of General De Trobriand who was elected a director, having been assigned to command the First Brigade. (It will be remembered that since the second week of May the two divisions had been one, being consolidated because of losses). Application was made for admission to membership of officers of the Ninety-third, New York, that had been lately sent to the division, but the request was refused as violation of the constitution. Another evidence of the imperfection of the roster was evidenced from the vote to recognize the membership of Surgeon Orpheus Evarts, of the Twentieth Indiana, "he having paid the initiation fee, but by some oversight his name does not appear in the list of members."

September thirteenth. The meeting was presided over by General Birney, his corps being in the Petersburg trenches. Colonel Brewster offered for membership the name of Colonel (Major) Julius Hayden, Tenth U. S. Infantry, serving on the former Third Corps staff as Commissary of Musters. As his name is not on our roster he probably failed to accept the honor. So many bills for embalming were approved that it would be encroaching upon space to enumerate them here. The vote passed at a former meeting, refusing membership to officers of regiments that had joined the division since the Corps was discontinued in May, was reconsidered, rescinded and Captain Walter W. Braman and Lieutenant



Simon D. Newcomb of the Ninety-third New York were elected members.

October twenty-second. The record of this meeting is a repetition of mortuary statistics that are in the main like those of the former meetings and like those that follow, until the Army was disbanded.

In this way only are the deaths of members perpetuated in the records, it being manifest that no resolutions could be written, under such circumstances. Two officers, however, were mentioned on this day whom all will remember, Colonel Calvin A. Craig, One hundred and fifth Pennsylvania, killed on the sixteenth of August, and Lieutenant Colonel George W. Meikel, Twentieth Indiana, killed on the twentieth of August, men who had both become noted in the now small division for their efficiency and courage. Surgeon Calhoun resigned and Colonel Welling was elected to the vacant office, his being filled by Captain Edwin B. Houghton of the Seventeenth Maine.

The death of General Birney was announced, he having died on the eighteenth, in his home at Philadelphia, whither he had gone on the tenth. A committee was named to prepare resolutions upon his death, the first of the kind in the records of the Union and it will be quite in keeping to give them here, in their order, as they are spread in full upon the records. The committee was De Trobriand, Pierce and Brewster. This is the last time Colonel Brewster is mentioned. He was mustered out soon after, his term of service having expired, as Brevet Brigadier.

A large number of members mostly from the

new regiments, were elected after the passage of the following:—"That, in consideration that this Division was permitted, after the Old Third Corps was temporarily broken up, to retain its badge and its flag, and in consideration of the severe engagements of the late eventful campaign, in which we have fought as a division, and in further consideration of the bravery which the above regiments have evinced, fighting side by side with the veterans of the Third Corps, we do consider them as members of the Old Third Corps and as entitled to the privileges of the society."

On motion of General Pierce, General Mott was elected as Vice President to fill the vacancy made by the death of General Birney.

November fifth, General De Trobriand for the committee reported the following resolutions:—

"WHEREAS, It has pleased Almighty God to bring to an end the earthly career of Major General David Bell Birney, who died in Philadelphia on the eighteenth of October, 1864, from disease contracted during the hardships and privations of more than three years campaign in the field, and

"WHEREAS, During all that period the noble and faithful service of said General Birney is closely identified with the glorious record of the Third Army Corps, either as Brigade or Division Commander, and

"WHEREAS, All that the casualties of war and insalubrities of climate have left under arms of the Third Army Corps is now included in this the Third Division of the Second Corps, fairly and fully represented by the association known as the

Third Corps Union, of which General Birney was the Vice President, therefore,

“RESOLVED, That in the death of General Birney we sorrowfully deplore the loss of a thorough patriotic citizen and accomplished gentleman, as well as of a most gallant soldier and highly efficient Commander.

“RESOLVED, That his upright character, his noble spirit, his indomitable energy, in the line of duty and his self sacrificing to the sacred cause of the Union, entitle him to the grateful memory of the country for which he gave up home, family, fortune and life.

“RESOLVED, That we deeply sympathize with the grief of his bereaved family, the welfare of which will remain always a matter of great concern among us.

“RESOLVED, That a copy of the above resolutions be forwarded to Mrs. General Birney as a true expression of the feeling of the officers and men of this command.”

A letter was read from Captain Charles H. Graves, who accompanied the General to Philadelphia, but it was not incorporated in the report.

November nineteenth, 1864, there was a meeting at the “Jones House”. After the routine business, already too fully dwelt upon perhaps, the following resolution was voted. “That we regard with favor the proposition of Surgeon Orpheus Evarts, Twentieth Indiana Veteran Volunteers, Surgeon in Chief of the Third Division, to prepare and publish a complete history of the Third Corps in such manner and style as his judg-

ment may dictate, and we hereby extend to him the auspices of the Third Corps Union in this contemplated work, and request that members of the Union and other officers of the Third Corps will assist him in procuring the necessary data so far as they have it in their power to do." The Secretary was instructed to promulgate to the officers of the Ninety-third New York, First Maine and First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery the resolution passed by the Board relative to their eligibility for membership in the Union.

Meeting of December fifth, 1864, at Headquarters Poplar Springs Church.

On January fifth, 1865, presumably at the same place. Among the various applications made and considered at every meeting, most of which after investigation were denied, there was one at this meeting unique in its character. It was from Chaplain Moore, asking aid for the family of Colonel Van Lear of the Sixth New Jersey, who was killed at the battle of Williamsburg. Needless to say that it was declined and although this was an extreme instance, there were many made that had as little claim on the funds of the Union. As a pendant to this there was appropriated at the same meeting the sum of two hundred dollars to the widow of Colonel M. B. Stafford, Eighty-sixth New York.

There is no record of a February meeting but there was one in March. No business of note was transacted.

The meeting of April twentieth was following the surrender at Appomattox. One might be expected to look to this record for some sign of or

allusion to the prospective disbanding of the army, but there is not a syllable to suggest it. The only thing to attract the attention is the absence of General Mott from the meeting. We all know that he was again wounded at the fight at Farmville. General De Trobriand presided and Captain A. Judson Clark was present for the first time since the campaign opened in May, 1864. Notwithstanding the absence of the Treasurer his annual report was read.

At a meeting held on the twenty-seventh of May General Mott was again in the chair. This was three days after the great review in Washington. At that time the Division was at or near Baileys Cross Roads, Va., having passed through Richmond on the sixth, through Fredericksburg on the tenth, and arriving at the Potomac, opposite Washington, on the seventeenth.

What may rightly be called the last War meeting of the Directors of the Union was that of June third, 1865, although there was one held on the twenty-ninth at which nothing of moment transpired.

At the first the canvass was made for the election of officers, in which all the old board was re-elected with one exception. That was to the office of Corresponding Secretary, which was assigned to Colonel Charles P. Mattocks, Seventeenth Maine. The following emphasizes the occasion:—"The Secretary is instructed to carry with him to New Jersey the books, papers, certificates of membership, etc., of the Union, that the business be transacted there, in view of the disbandment of the army."

No one can read the foregoing reports without being impressed with a sense of the conscientious devotion that the officers of the Union gave to their work. We really gain but an imperfect idea of the amount of time given to it from what has here been told. If the letters and other papers had been preserved we should be amazed at their bulk and they would add an important contribution to the history of the Corps. That they should have found time, from the pressing duties of the hour, to give to the details that we have seen attended to, even, we may truthfully say, for a part of the time under fire, must ever be a matter of wonderment. It can scarcely be possible that any one of them ever gave a thought to the future of the society they created, or the work they were doing in its bearing on the future. If such a thought ever came it must have been dismissed with the conclusion that the end of the war would be the end of the "Third Army Corps Union." That it could be perpetuated and become to us what it has been in the last forty years could never have entered into their imagination. Therefore we owe them a debt of gratitude beyond that due them for their patriotic services, and we must ever recall their names at our meetings with a reverential thankfulness that can come only from the ties that bind those who have been "Tried in dangers many".

One other thing that we must now regret has not been followed as persistently as they would have followed it had they lived, and that is the desire shown on more than one occasion to collect and preserve the records and history of the Third

Corps. It is certainly a matter of regret that the Corps, whose history is such a large part of the Army of the Potomac should have found no historian. We cannot but be thankful that General Walker in his able history of the Second Corps has done for us more than any other who has written of those memorable days that began in May 1864 and ended with the surrender at Appomattox.

Before attempting a summary of the meetings that have been held since the war it will be more in keeping with what has gone before, and will supplement and in a way explain it, if we let the first Treasurer of the Union tell his story.

## LETTER OF E. R. TREMAIN.

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New York, July 19, 1863.

My dear Son:

On Friday, Major Purdy called on me, with a letter from Captain Fry, telling him to call on me and procure my aid in sending off supplies for the wounded of the Third Army Corps, in the battle of Gettysburg. He had a rough list of the articles particularly needed, such as lemons, oranges, fruits, tamarinds, jellies, etc. He also showed me a pencilled note from General Sickles to Jas. T. Brady saying that Major Purdy would explain a wish he had at heart, to aid his wounded heroes at Gettysburg, and asking him to help him execute it. Brady being out of the city, the responsibility seemed to fall on me, of acting alone. Purdy also handed me the Paymaster's, McBlair's, check, to General Sickles' order, for \$100 as the General's contribution.

I took all the documents and yesterday at the regular meeting of the Public Stock Board (not the old Stock Exchange Board, but the new Public Board, of which I am a member) asked unanimous consent to suspend the rules for a few moments to allow me to present a statement in regard to the Army of the Potomac, which was granted. I secured the almost breathless silence for a short time, of this usually very boisterous and excited



body of stock brokers, while I made the simple statement, in a few words of appeal to their loyalty and humanity, and taking from my pocket a subscription list, and pointing to the General's check that I had pinned to the list, asked what we ought to do, when a General who had lost one leg in our defence sent from his pay one hundred dollars for this cause? I promised, in the beginning not to consume more than five minutes of their time, and had their earnest and undivided attention for about that time, and asked "What will you do?" A shout went up, earnest and responsive, "Send them supplies"—"take the money"—"here's my pile"—"put me down for \$25"; "put me down for \$10", etc. In less than ten minutes I had collected \$700. I have seen Adams Express who will see that a special car is sent right through. Tomorrow I will devote to aiding Purdy in procuring and dispatching the supplies, and will act as Treasurer of the fund, to see that it is properly and judiciously expended.

I have thus given the details because Purdy is not very clear in his explanation of what the General really desired, to make the effort more general and public, or rather private with a few personal friends. I think I have taken the most efficient mode and hope it will prove satisfactory in the end and be productive of benefit to the poor wounded heroes.

Yours affectionately,

(signed) E. R. TREMAIN.

## TOLD BY THE TREASURER.

The first entry on the book of the Treasurer is under the date of September twenty-seventh, 1863, and the amount sixty dollars, for initiation fees. Other entries rapidly followed until the fifth of May, 1864, when the receipts totaled, for admissions alone, thirty-eight hundred and seventy dollars. This would indicate that upon the day from which we date our annual meeting, three hundred and eighty-seven members had been enrolled in the Union. In this the first year of our history there was one other very significant entry and that was the sum of six dollars and ninety cents for interest on a U. S. four per cent. bond. The question as to how best to keep the money that had accumulated in the hands of the Treasurer seems to have been answered by the dictates of patriotism and the faith in the cause for which we were contending, and to have been shown by tendering this money, received from the Government, to the Government, to carry on the work that we were doing. This investment was the nucleus of the Permanent Fund that we hold to this day.

The first benefit paid from this money was to Mrs. Colonel Casper Trepp on the death of her husband, the Lieutenant Colonel of Berdan's First Regiment of Sharp Shooters. He was killed at

Mine Run on the thirtieth of November, 1863. The next was to Mrs. McDonough, widow of Captain H. J. McDonough, Seventy-second New York, killed at Locust Grove, November twenty-seventh. The third was to G. G. White whose name does not appear on the roster and may not represent the officer killed, but there is no clue to his identity.

From May, 1864, to May, 1865, the receipts were twelve hundred and thirty-eight dollars and seventy-five cents. This came from dues, five hundred and fifty; new members, four hundred and eighty; interest, two hundred and eight dollars and seventy-five cents. This would indicate an increase in membership to four hundred and thirty-five. The entries on the other side of the ledger during this battle summer, autumn and winter, were a sad record of the killed and suggestion of want in their families. The total amount paid on account of the undertakers and to the widows was fourteen hundred and eighty-nine dollars. Seven families were aided with sums varying from fifty to two hundred dollars. The running expenses were trifling and the only item of consequence was that for certificates. The badge account is not included in this, being kept entirely in an account by itself.

As a matter of interest it may be told here, that during the term of General Mott's treasurership he issued two hundred and twelve badges involving the handling of fifty-two hundred and twenty-five dollars.

The balance at the close of this year was twenty-two hundred and twenty-four dollars, including the amount invested.

By the end of the following year this amount had been increased by two hundred and twenty-four dollars, of which eighty-four was interest and the balance was from fourteen new memberships, bringing the total of members, living and deceased, to four hundred and fifty-nine. During this year one benefit was paid of sixty-two dollars, and two hundred and forty-five for the undertakers' bills. The last bill paid of this nature was for the embalming of the body of Colonel Moore of the Ninety-ninth Pennsylvania, killed at Fort Fisher, January fifteenth, 1865. At that date he was the Colonel of the Two hundred and third Pennsylvania, of the Tenth Corps.

On the fifth of May, 1866, there was a balance of twenty-one hundred and forty-one dollars, to which only the interest was added in the following year, so that after the payment of sundry expenses there remained but two thousand and ninety-five dollars. Of course no attempt was made to collect dues and probably the prevailing idea among the members was that the society would cease to exist and that its work was ended. It was no wonder that with the return of the men to their homes other subjects engrossed their minds and that the sentiment that created the Grand Army and the Loyal Legion had not sprung into life.

The officers of the Union, however, were alive to their duties as in the more strenuous days, and in 1867 there was a call sent out for the annual meeting, which has ever since been attended with ever increasing enthusiasm, in many cities and towns, until the present time.

The monetary consideration at these first meetings was not of prime importance evidently, judging by the small amounts that came to the hands of the Treasurer. A few new members were added and fewer dues collected, and the receipts were lumped by the Treasurer to whom the money was turned over by the Secretary in bulk. Hence, how much was collected for dues or for dinners is not apparent from any figures today. When the expenses exceeded the receipts the "hat was passed," for the idea of holding to what money had accumulated was strong in the minds of all as we shall see later. Needless to say that the members were not slow in making up any deficiencies and that other appeals were most generously responded to. The largest bills in those first days were for advertising, save those of the caterer, who was Delmonico, or some other equally expensive host, for the best was none too good for those who had been limited in their bill of fare for four years. Scattered as the members were, it was necessary to advertise from Maine to Michigan in any paper that was likely to attract the attention, and it may indicate the condition of some of our number, or what was thought to be, that Jay Cook & Co., were among the recipients of the favor.

Such items as "Paid Delmonico for incidentals four hundred and eighty-four dollars", "Draft on account of Boston meeting six hundred and ten dollars," (Boston always was an expensive place), "Astor House two hundred and eighty-nine dollars," "Guy's Hotel four hundred and four dollars," continue up to 1876 when a halt was called and the expenses of the meetings were intrusted to a com-

mittee and thereafter the Treasurer's account knew only dues and interest, with an occasional membership, or in later years a life membership.

It was not until 1876 that the so-called Permanent Fund was created amounting to thirteen hundred and twenty-five dollars, and which when the present Treasurer succeeded General Mott had grown to fifteen hundred and forty-seven dollars in 1885. At the present day it amounts to one thousand dollars, being depleted by the meeting at Hadley in 1897. The Contingent Fund that was received by the present Treasurer amounted to eighteen dollars and a few cents. In that year thirty dollars was the only income outside the interest of the Permanent Fund.

Then a systematic attempt was made to collect the annual dues and the duty was taken from the Secretary and laid upon the new Treasurer. This was a great relief to the former and no burden to the latter, for one now has very little idea of the amount of writing Colonel Welling did. He was a born letter-writer and nothing delighted him more than a letter from a comrade of the Corps to whom he could reply, and that was always readily and most entertainingly.

The Treasurer managed to bring his yearly balance to the hundred dollar mark for several years, but it has been dwindling slowly until this year of 1909 when it has quite disappeared and permission was given to use the reserve, if necessary.

There has been a large amount of money raised since the war that does not appear in the society's accounts. A very expensive badge was presented

to General J. Watts De Peyster, a watch and chain to Colonel Welling and a bronze medal to Major Willard Bullard. A monument was erected in Chelsea, Massachusetts, to the memory of Miss Helen Gilson, an Army nurse in the Third Corps Hospital, and one to Colonel Welling in Pennington, N. J. A life size portrait of General Hooker was presented to the town of Hadley and a bronze tablet placed on the house in the town in which he was born. It was the impulse of the Hadley meeting that made the erection of the statue of General Hooker in Boston possible, and although it was erected by an appropriation of the Commonwealth, considerable sums were contributed by the members of the Union in pushing the movement to a successful end.

It is not the figures that interest us in these matters and so they are best ignored. The satisfaction is found in the fact that when an object appealed to a comrade's sense of righteousness there was the ready response that will be made again if occasion arrives.

And so, leaving the Treasurer's dry details, let us turn to the meetings that have been held since the war, hastily passing in the review the events that are most worthy of remembrance.

## THE SEQUEL.



Pursuant to a call published in the papers of New York, Boston and Trenton, the Annual Meeting was held at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, on the fifth of May, 1866. How many were present at that time is not known, but the record says "Not enough of the members of the Board being present to constitute a quorum it was resolved to go immediately into a meeting for the election of officers to serve the ensuing year." General Mott was elected President and General McAllister, Vice President and five officers constituted the Board.

The time seems to have been devoted to amending the constitution and by-laws, with the idea principally to have them conform to the new circumstances. The radical change was the dropping from the "Declaration and Preamble" the statement that the society was a benevolent one and in place of that saying it was to aid brother officers, etc. The new constitution was printed with the reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, and an "Introductory" in a little pamphlet, measuring some four inches by three and consisting of twenty-four pages. This is probably one of the little "War-Books" that in the years to come will bring a fabulous price and as it must be unknown to many the "Introductory" is worth quoting, at least in part.



“Rejoicing in the glorious memories of the past, with a hearty greeting for the present, and high hopes for the future, the Third Corps Union issues this little pamphlet to its members, now scattered all over this broad land, confidently trusting that it may revive the martial spirit of those days when they all wore the ‘blue’ and the ‘diamond’, and marched to victory with the bannered hosts of the noble old Corps.

“Perchance it may come to the peaceful homes and places of business—aye, it may be, to the sick couch of very many who will, as they read it, gaze with greater interest and with redoubled affection and pride on our golden decoration, and on the mute but eloquent engraving which adorns their dwelling. Memory will call up from her treasured storehouse the scenes and associations of the hurried, tiresome march, the hasty bivouac, the battle, the victory, the defeat, the wounds, the dead and dying comrades; while sweetly blending with them all comes siren winged peace, with magic power, binding up the wounds of war, healing the solitary, mourning, riven heart, and clothing with monumental dignity each blade of grass as it rears anew its emerald splendor over the resting places of their patriot dead.

“For the widow and orphan it commemorates a husband and a father who fell under the Red, the White, or the Blue, a Diamond lost in the setting of earth, to be reproduced in the soldier’s glorious signet of eternity. And while with one hand it offers the afflicted ones its sincerest sympathies and its most cordial remembrances, with the other it proffers the hearty benevolence of its treasury.

To all it comes as a messenger of the glorious old days of the Third Corps, recalling hallowed remembrances, pleasant companionships, saluting the living, remembering the dead and bidding us leave for a little time the busy, bustling avocations of life, that we may live over again our army days and consecrate ourselves anew to this Association to which we are bound by no common ties, and which this day invites us to receive its affectionate God speed."

The Secretary closes this introduction with a tribute to Surgeon S. C. Hunkins, Third Maine, whose death occurred as the book went to press.

In his annual report Colonel Welling, after touching upon the topics of routine, "Since our last meeting I have been constantly in receipt of letters from our comrades throughout the country, asking for information, which to my mind evinces that the spirit of the old Third Corps, and the love for this association, the only link binding us to our martial days, have by no means grown cold, or been permitted to die out. And while now there seems to be an apparent apathy and want of interest on the part of members, I am confident that by using the means I have mentioned, the 'esprit de corps' of ancient days would leap forth to new life and to a more enthusiastic demonstration than has ever been witnessed, even in the midst of warlike scenes.

"The only communication to which it is my pleasurable duty to call your attention is from the First Massachusetts Infantry Association, of Boston, bearing the signatures of General Robert Cowden and Captain Isaac P. Gragg, the President

and Secretary. In it are embodied in a neat and novel form their kindest salutations to the Union, and their assurances of never to be forgotten comradeship."

Referring to the death of members he thus eulogizes Surgeon Calhoun, his predecessor. "And I should be false to my own heart promptings, as well as false to the sincere sentiments of our Union, did I fail to commemorate in this report the death of our Second Secretary, and our honored, gifted friend and brother, Assistant Surgeon J. Theodore Calhoun, U. S. Army. True to the spirit which gave such vitality to his career, he died a victim to a disease whose mission it was his to conquer. Possessing an indomitable will, a resolute spirit and brilliant genius, he rose to a position in his profession which adds lustre to his name and pride to us today, as we pay our tribute to his memory. I feel it to be not only a pleasure but a duty for me to recommend to you, gentlemen, that resolutions be passed and sent to his bereaved wife and family expressive of our appreciation of his life and services to us as a Society and deeply sympathetic with them in the hour of their affliction.

"There may be others who have passed from earth since our last assembly, and whose names are registered on the rolls of eternity; if they are omitted here, as we pay our tributes of respect to departed comrades, the omission must be attributed to want of knowledge. For such the Union wears the badge of mourning on its ensign, and to their families extends its warmest sympathies and most heartfelt benedictions.

"As I respectfully submit my report, may I

indulge the hope that, as over the graves of our dead comrades the green grass of an awakening spring has already begun to wave, so may our memory of them and those they left behind, be so *green, so fresh, so pure*, that we shall today again renew our allegiance to this society and again declare that for the sake of our comrades in the other world and their stricken, sorrowing ones in this, we will be true to our name, to our past, and to our future."

This extract from the first report of the Secretary after the war days were ended is a fair sample of every one that was given the men until the day when his pen could no longer record his thoughts. Is it any wonder that, listening to such words, under the circumstances in which they were delivered, or reading them when printed by men far off in the country home, a sentiment was created for the "Union" that has held us together as the men of no other corps have been held. There have been other reasons for this, in which we have been peculiarly fortunate, and one is, in having so continuously the presence and inspiration of our loved Commander, whose interest in each and every one of his "boys" has been as genuine as the love of a father for his children, and who has received it back into his heart in full measure. This is also true in scarcely less measure in the case of other men to whom we looked up and respected. Mott, McAllister, Graham and many others were constant in their attendance at the meetings and never ceased to evince the liveliest interest in the Union. As these passed, other men came to the front, less well known at the first

but worthy successors of those named, who kept alive the spirit and, it may also be said, aroused it to a greater enthusiasm, at times, than it has known since the war.

The meeting in 1867 was held in Trenton. General Mott was re-elected President. No matters other than routine came before it for consideration. There was, doubtless, at these early meetings a dinner, or "banquet", but no reference is made to it, although an entry in the report of the Treasurer might lead to the belief that it was paid from his funds.

The meeting of 1868 was also in Trenton. The report names those present, the number being but twenty-two. General Sickles was elected President. The death of Mrs. Helen Gilson Osgood, who was for so long a time identified with the Corps as a nurse, was announced and a committee reported resolutions "in honor of the departure from earth of this estimable woman". Later we shall read of a monument to her memory. Unfortunately, the annual reports of the Treasurer, other than that recorded in his book, have not been preserved for this and some years to come.

In December, 1868, there was a special meeting of the Directors at Delmonico's in New York, at which arrangements were made, by appointing a committee, for the meeting on the coming fifth of May. "The duty of said committee shall be to provide an entertainment, to issue tickets at such a rate as shall defray the consequent expenses and to attend to such other matters as may come under their jurisdiction as a committee of arrangements." The well known names of

Cooney, Bullard, Fassett and McMichael appear as members selected for the work.

On motion of Colonel McMichael it was voted:

“WHEREAS, There is an earnest desire among the surviving officers of the Army of the Potomac for the formation of a society and a general reunion of all who served in that organization,

“RESOLVED, That it is recommended by the Third Corps Union, the oldest association of that army, that measures be at once taken to secure the speedy accomplishment of the universally expressed wish.”

The committee appointed to carry out this was General Hooker, Colonels McMichael and Pulford, with General Sickles as the chairman.

A special meeting of the members was called on the twenty-second of December, also at Delmonico's, when thirty-three responded to roll call. General Pleasanton was present by invitation and was elected an honorary member of the Union. This was done in the enthusiasm of the moment and Generals Hooker and Heintzleman were immediately proposed and elected likewise. Later it was suggested by some that the constitution made no provision for honorary members and it took much talk to set the matter right. The arrangements for the annual meeting were discussed, a vote passed inviting all officers of the Corps, not members of the Union, to be present, subscriptions were received for a monument to Mrs. Helen Gilson Osgood and resolutions on the death of deceased comrades.

At the annual meeting on the fifth of May, 1869, held at Delmonico's, an attempt was made to amend the constitution and permit the election of honorary members, but it failed of success. Power was given the Directors to invite "distinguished officers" to the banquet. General Sickles was again elected to the presidency.

The meeting in 1870 was held in Boston. Elaborate preparations had been made, although much of the zest of the occasion was discounted by the absence of General Sickles, who had been appointed Minister to Spain since the last meeting. To add to it, neither General Mott nor any of the distinguished officers of the Corps were able to be present. Major A. Judson Clark presided at the meeting. General Sickles was again the choice for President but an eastern man came in for second place, Colonel Charles P. Mattocks, of Portland, Me., and two eastern men were put upon the Board of Directors.

Captain G. W. Cooney offered the following:

"WHEREAS, General J. Watts De Peyster has, with his pen and influence on all occasions defended and sustained the reputation of the Third Corps, by giving to the public the true version of its acts in the several engagements in which it participated during the late war, particularly the Battle of Gettysburg, therefore,

"RESOLVED, That a committee be authorized to prepare and present to him a suitable medal, as an appreciation of his efforts and as a recognition of his ability, to hand down to posterity a true and correct statement of the part acted by the Third

Corps during the war. The same to be by voluntary subscriptions and of no expense to the Union."

Colonel Batchelder invited the members to visit the picture of the Battle of Gettysburg, then on exhibition, and offered to donate the receipts of one day to the monument to be erected to Mrs. Helen Gilson Osgood. General Mattocks presided at the dinner and gave an oration carefully prepared, by request, on the "Lessons of the War", and a poem was read by Lieutenant George A. Marden, First Sharp Shooters. The invited guests were General Cowden, of Boston, and Mayor Shurtleff. Hon. Frank B. Fay was also present, known to many soldiers for his activity in the hospitals and on the field as a leading member of the Christian commission.

The meeting in 1871 was held at the Astor House, New York. Colonel McMichael presided. The minutes of the meeting show that the monetary condition was beginning to alarm some of the members and that a fear of encroaching upon the invested money had been aroused, probably by the expense of the Boston meeting. After quite sharp discussion the following article was adopted as an amendment to the constitution. "Honorary members of the Third Corps Union may be elected in either of the following ways, viz.: First, by a unanimous vote at any annual meeting. Second, by a nomination at any stated meeting and an election by a vote of three-fourths of all members present at the next annual meeting." The following were then declared honorary members: General Alfred Pleasanton; General J. Watts De Peyster; and Thomas M. Cook, representative



at Third Corps headquarters for a long time of the New York Herald. This entry suggests the remark that there is no evidence that Generals Hooker and Heintzleman were ever formally elected members of either class. General Charles K. Graham was elected President and Colonel Clayton McMichael of Philadelphia, Vice President. Either at this or the former meeting life memberships were provided for at the rate of twenty-five dollars, relieving the members of all dues.

During this year, the date is not on record, the badge was presented to General De Peyster. It was thus described: "The badge is six inches long. At the top, forming the pin clasp, is a shoulder strap embossed with two silver stars, indicative of the rank of major general. The badge depends from this, and is composed of gold, tastefully relieved with precious stones. The upper part consists of seven gold bars on which are engraved the services rendered by the recipient. Below these bars is an exquisitely chased eagle with wings full spread, holding in his talons a diamond or lozenge, the distinguishing badge of the Third Corps while in the field. On this is an enameled wreath of laurel, two crossed swords and a small lozenge in the center surrounded by silver rays. This smaller lozenge holds a diamond worth one hundred and fifty dollars. Above it, and beneath the swords, is engraved the name of Heintzleman, the first commander of the Corps. From the lower angle of the lozenge and the two points of the crossed swords, hang three pendants, lozenge shaped, which represent the three divisions com-

posing the old corps, when it was complete. The first is set with a ruby of the finest water, and has engraved on the reverse the name of the deeply mourned Kearny, who originated the idea of such a decoration for his division. The second is represented by a clear diamond bearing the name of Hooker. The third is a choice sapphire and bears the name of Whipple, who was mortally wounded at Chancellorsville.

"These four names, Heintzleman, Kearny, Hooker and Whipple, form an epitome of the services rendered the country by the officers and men of the gallant old Third Corps."

A special meeting of the directors was held at the call of the President, on the tenth of January, 1872. The reason is told by the preamble and resolutions adopted.

"WHEREAS, General D. E. Sickles, our corps commander, the U. S. Minister at Spain, is on a visit to the United States, and

"WHEREAS, His brilliant services, as a beloved commander of our corps, as well as his distinguished position among the statesmen of our country, reflect the highest honor upon us as a society and upon the country at large, therefore,

"RESOLVED, That we tender to General Sickles our congratulations upon his safe return to the land of his birth under such favorable auspices, and it gives us great satisfaction that he has availed himself of the indulgence of the Department to visit his home, as well as to give us an opportunity to renew to him our sentiments of high regard and esteem. That we tender to him a dinner, at such

time and place as he may designate, previous to his departure for Spain; and in the event of his acceptance, the President be empowered to appoint a committee to make all arrangements."

A committee was appointed with Colonel McMichael as chairman. It was made up of Generals Graham and Sharpe. Major Bullard, Captain Fassitt, General Tremain and Captain Demarest.

There are no records from which to ascertain the date when the dinner was given.

The annual meeting of 1872 was held on the fourth of May. General Graham, the president, was absent because of illness. A large part of the time of the meeting was taken up with discussing amendments to the constitution, that have no interest today. It appears that General Heintzleman was present. For the first time there was a difference among the members as to the choice of officers. Two candidates were named for president. One, General Graham, the second, Colonel McMichael. The result was the election of the first as president and the second as vice president. The city of Philadelphia, where the meeting was held, extended every courtesy to the Union. The meeting was held in the Council Chamber of the City Hall; the Union League Club threw open its doors and the citizens by many courtesies made us welcome. The dinner in the evening was the largest and most distinguished of any the Corps had ever enjoyed. There were present Generals Meade, Patterson, Heintzleman, Mott, Tremain and Sewall; Hon. Morton McMichael and Colonel James Forney of the Marine Corps, and a

very large representation of the members of the Union. Taken altogether it was voted the most enthusiastic and enjoyable of any meeting that had been held. On the following day those of the men who remained over were taken among other places to Woodlands Cemetery, where General Birney is buried.

One outcome of this meeting was the attempt to have a complete roster of the members printed. It was put forth in the January following and from the notice on the first page of the pamphlet of fifteen pages, it was evidently but an attempt to obtain information that would lead to a more perfect record. The names were not given in alphabetical order and but a few of them had any but the regiment to which the comrade belonged. The Secretary said: "There are a large number upon the roll whose address is unknown to the Secretary, and members will please note the address of such as may come within their knowledge. If any have died please mark date of death." A list of the dead of the Union was appended, to the number of fifty-five.

The meeting of 1873 was held in Irving Hall, New York. Colonel Clayton McMichael was elected President and General George H. Sharpe, Vice-President. Captain Fassitt presented to the Secretary, Colonel Welling, a watch and chain, Colonel Morgan presented to Major Willard Bullard a bronze medal. No mention is made as to the donors of these gifts, or who instigated the presentations. Resolutions upon the death of several members occupied the time of the meeting. The "banquet" was spread at Guy's, Corner of

Broadway and Fourteenth Street. The only record at hand is the bill of fare, from which it is gleaned that there were present as guests, General Stuart Woodford (much better known today than then), General Owens, General McMahon, General Davies and Hon. Richard O. Gorman.

In 1874 the meeting was in Newark. The business was transacted in the City Council Chamber by invitation of the Mayor. On motion of General Biles the Secretary was "Requested to forward a communication to the President of the United States asking him to appoint at the solicitation of the Third Corps Union, William P. Van Leer, son of Colonel John P. Van Leer, killed at the Battle of Williamsburgh, to a Cadetship at West Point."

The question of a history of the Third Corps coming before the meeting it was, after many motions and much discussion, moved and voted, "That a committee of five be appointed to confer with General De Peyster as to the publication of his history of the Third Corps."

On motion of Colonel Bullard the Secretary was instructed "to telegraph to Congress that the Third Army Corps Union would like to see the bill pass for the Centennial appropriation in order that the one hundredth anniversary of American liberty may be a greater success." Colonel McMichael was re-elected president.

A complete report of this meeting, as given by the newspapers, would fill many pages. The mayor gave a reception and made a speech of welcome. General Mott, in his official capacity of Commander of the State Militia, with his Brigade Commanders, and their staffs were present to ex-

tend a welcome and in fact the freedom of the city was presented, not only to the society but to every individual. After the adjournment of the business meeting the Fifth Veteran Regiment, commanded by Colonel Barnard, with the band from Governors Island, paraded in front of the City Hall, and as the members of the Union present appeared on the steps they presented arms. Taking position immediately behind the color company the march to Military Park was made, where a salute was fired by Battery A, commanded by Captain Kahlert. The visitors then took position and the First Brigade, after inspection by General Mott, passed in review.

The exercises of the evening were held at the Maison Grise, with a large number of distinguished guests, and the post prandial section was extended into the wee small hours. The most interesting of the speakers was Cortland Parker, a relative of General Kearny, who responded to the toast in his memory as follows: After giving a portrayal of the character of the man, the love his officers and men bore him, the care, the anxiety, the tenderness he evinced towards his men, he said: "Shall we forget all about this brave soldier, shall we forget the feeling of his brigade when the order for promotion came and he was offered a division? He replied, 'Yes, I accept, if my brigade is to be a part of my division.' It was but a few weeks after he took command of that division that he led to the victory of Williamsburgh, of which today is the anniversary. Hardly a movement took place on the Peninsula but he foresaw it, and wrote his friends about it. He had a remarkable

foresight. Who saved our troops when they were retreating on Harrison Landing? Was it not Phil Kearny? He went through the war merely the gallant soldier, while feeling that he could lead a division as easily as a brigade, a corps as easily as a division. Had he known how much he was valued, in all probability he would not have died so soon. In one letter the Secretary of War states that he was waiting for the opportunity to make use of such signal ability. The command of the army of the Potomac was his destiny had not death intervened. It was a fearful thing for us all that we should lose him at that time. I shall never forget that day. Handsome, nobly surrendered by General Lee, his body conveyed to Washington and brought here. His person was hardly known here, having lived so much abroad. But the Common Council and the citizens of Newark insisted and the cortege came over from the Passaic River, revered by silent multitudes, carried through our streets to the extreme end of our city and conveyed to its last resting place amid the most solemn ceremonies."

The meeting of 1875 was held in New York. At this meeting there was a thorough revision of the constitution, following the report of a committee appointed the year before. The name of the society was changed from "Third Corps Union" to "Third Army Corps Union". All suggestion of aid to members is discarded and the object of the society is declared to be "to perpetuate the history of the Corps". A separation of the money in the Treasurer's hands was made, for a Permanent and a Contingent Fund. Trustees

were to be elected to have the control of the Permanent Fund, which was to be credited with all the money in the treasury after the debts of the fiscal year were paid. Other changes were not of great consequence to us of today.

The President was requested to "present to his Excellency, the President of the United States, the name of Frederick Clay Bowers, son of Captain Charles F. Bowers, late eighth New Jersey, for appointment as cadet at large to the U. S. Naval Academy, as a recognition of the services of our comrade who fought gallantly in the late war, for the preservation of the Union."

The Secretary was instructed "To thank the President of the United States, General U. S. Grant, for prompt and very satisfactory attention to the recommendation of the Union, for the appointment of William P. Van Leer to the Military Academy at West Point."

The election resulted in the choice of General George H. Sharpe for President and General William Sewall for Vice President.

In adjourning, General Tremain moved that "The next annual reunion be on May fifth, as prescribed by the constitution, and be adjourned without the transaction of business, to a later day in that year, to be named by the Board." The object of this motion, not referred to in the records, was to afford the society the opportunity of being in Philadelphia at the Centennial Reunion.

The meeting of 1876 was held as prescribed and adjourned after electing General Joseph B. Kiddoo, U. S. A., late One hundred and thirty-seventh



Pennsylvania, a member of the Union. There is no record of a Philadelphia meeting other than the call of the Secretary, for the fifth of June, at the Union League House. The dinner to be served in the banquet room of the League.

The distinguished guests present at this meeting were: Governor Hartranft, Generals Hooker, Hardin, Dix, Hancock, Ingalls, McCook, Humphrey and Potter.

The meeting of 1877 was held in New York at Delmonico's. General Sewall was elected President and General Tremain, Vice President. General Sickles was present and answered to the toast of the President at the dinner in the evening. Others at the board were Generals Butterfield, Pleasanton, McCook, Kiddoo, Hobart Ward and Crawford. It is perhaps superfluous to say that the comrades who were present at this welcome to General Sickles on his return from Spain, were those who never fail to respond to the annual call, as well as many who were seldom seen at the meetings. General Sickles had, as his guest, Colonel Lopez de Queralta, "a leader of the insurgent forces in his native land," as the papers reported.

The meeting of 1878 was at Newburg, on the Hudson, on the seventh of May, the fifth having fallen on Sunday. The officers who served during the last year were elected by acclamation. As at Newark so at Newburg, city officials and citizens alike vied with one another to do honor to their visitors. On arrival we were escorted to the Mayor's office, where a reception was held, the mayor at that time being Colonel Weygant of the

One hundred twenty-fourth New York, which was largely recruited from the locality and known to us as the "Orange-Blossoms". Of that committee of reception were Major Ramsdell and Dr. Montfort, well known members of the Regiment and the Union. After the reception we were given a lunch at the hotel, with a speech of welcome from Rev. W. K. Hall, and an invitation to the Headquarters of Washington. Carriages for all were provided and upon arrival we were welcomed by Hon. Joel T. Headley, in behalf of the Trustees. His address was a long but an exceedingly interesting one, calculated to impress us with the sacred memories clustering about the spot. It would be interesting reading today, but its length is unsuited to this review. The conclusion, however, may well be reproduced.

"Yet here, right in front of this building, the old, ragged, Continentals were drawn up in line for the last time, and here they broke ranks for the last time, while the band played the mournful tune of Roslyn Castle with which they were accustomed to bear their dead comrades to their graves. Then ensued a scene that the pen of the historian has never described and never will. Gallant officers who had ridden all steadily through the storm of battle and periled their lives without fear or thought, for the sake of their country, stood alone, or in groups, on this green bluff, penniless and with no way of reaching their still more penniless families, except by begging. Of all the sad scenes that long sad war produced, this last breaking up of the army furnished the saddest of all. I will not attempt to portray it. I will only say the

conflict was over, and the flag that had floated over this building for more than a year and a half was taken down, and silence and solitude fell upon it. It remained neglected and forgotten until 1850 when the State, having purchased it, consecrated it to its present use amid imposing ceremonies. General Scott pulled the halyards that sent the flag up the staff, bearing the inscription of Liberty and Union, Now and Forever, One and Inseparable. In floating out to the breeze amid the acclamation of the people, it floats out today a welcome to the heroes of later battles and of the last great conflict for the Union."

General Sewall responded for the society and General Hooker made a speech replete with patriotism. General Sickles also addressed the gathering after which another lunch was served, to the music of a band stationed outside, after which we re-entered the carriages and were driven to Balmville where we rode through the grounds of several beautiful estates, commanding fine views of the Hudson and in returning stopped at the house of Hon. Homer Ramsdell for refreshments.

After this the business meeting was held, occupying little time. The following resolution adopted, relating to General Mott, although he was not mentioned by name, was the only action of note.

"WHEREAS, one of our most distinguished comrades, an ex-President of the Union, has recently passed through the fires of a Legislative investigation, on charges affecting his character as a public officer and a man, and

"WHEREAS, He was honorably acquitted of the same and his character fully vindicated, therefore,

“RESOLVED, That we congratulate him on his complete and handsome vindication, and hail his presence here today as that of a worthy comrade and gentleman. We rejoice at the record he has made, both at home and in the army, and tender him the assurances of our renewed confidence and esteem.”

The dinner was an elaborate and prolonged one. Among the guests were General Schofield and Colonel Batchelder, the historian of Gettysburg. The speakers were many but notably Generals Hooker, Sickles and Robinson. The memory of Lincoln was responded to by Judge Taylor, who during his speech said, “And now guide your eyes, gentlemen, (pointing to a flag), to the flag that decorated the box in that theatre where Mr. Lincoln sat, that flag that caught the foot of the assassin as he jumped from the box to the stage, the flag that secured the arrest and conviction and the ultimate death of the assassin. It appears as if that flag, which you had been defending for four long years, in the defence of which thousands of lives and millions of money had been expended, rose instinctively to arrest that dastardly assassin and caught him on the stage of the theatre and secured his ultimate execution. There is more in that flag, gentlemen, than many think. You have loved it greatly. You have risked your all, sacrificed your all, for its defence. And it appears as if, in times of peril and emergency, there exists in it an instinct for its own protection, that will rise to defend itself against a dastardly and cowardly attack.” The speech-making was kept up

until a late hour, many who had never, or seldom, been heard at the meetings, being obliged to say something. All joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne" and our fifteenth anniversary banquet ended.

The next day four carriage loads drove to West Point over the new mountain road. There were Generals Hooker, Sewall and Rusling; Chaplains Twichell and Hall; Colonels Welling and Bachelder; Majors Purdy, Noonan and Shreve. Several ladies were also of the party. The day was spent in viewing the grounds and taking in the beauties of the spot, but beyond no one of the number will ever forget the life infused into the company by the conversation of General Hooker, with his reminiscences of Cadet life and of distinguished people of the generation, in every walk of life, from Kate Chase to "Saint Abraham".

The meeting of 1879 was held at Delmonico's in New York. General Henry E. Tremain was elected President and General Edwin R. Biles Vice President. A discussion arose upon a motion to repeal that clause of the constitution providing for members in succession. The motion was lost.

There were present at the dinner Generals Hooker, Sickles, Robinson, Davis, Tibbetts, Graham and Mott.

At the meeting of May fifth, 1880, about thirty members were present, General Biles in the chair. Inasmuch as it had been previously determined to hold a meeting at Cape May City on the eighth of July, this was merely to comply with the requirements of the constitution.

Attention was called to the deaths since our

last meeting of Generals Hooker, Heintzleman and Tibbetts, and Generals De Peyster, Robinson and Colonel Otis were requested to prepare "suitable resolutions".

After a lunch the party sailed down the harbor, by invitation of General Graham, on a Government tug. In the evening General Sickles entertained a few at dinner.

The adjourned meeting at Cape May was largely attended. The report of the Treasurer and a roster of members was issued in this year.

In 1881 the meeting was at the Astor House, New York. General Biles was elected President and Major Shreve, Vice President. Following the business meeting a large party accepted the invitation of General Graham to sail down the harbor, which sail was quite beyond Sandy Hook, giving the comrades a healthy appetite for the dinner in the evening.

About seventy sat down at this banquet, almost all members, as at that day the ladies were not invited to swell the number.

The reports of the committee of the resolutions on the deaths of Generals Hooker and Heintzleman were presented at this meeting and later were printed.

In 1882 the meeting was in Jersey City, at the Hotel Windsor. Major William P. Shreve was elected President and Major Bullard, Vice President. On motion a committee was named to confer with Colonel Bachelder upon the position of the Third Corps monuments at Gettysburg. A suggestion was made looking to having the Union

incorporated, but the committee named for that purpose has never reported.

The annual meeting of 1883 was at Washington, May sixteenth, adjourned from the fifth. Where that was held is not shown. This arrangement was that we might meet with the Army of the Potomac Society. There was no dinner of the Corps, but all joined with the Potomac Society in the celebration and therefore the Corps meeting, as such, was practically lost sight of. This meeting extinguished what sentiment there was in our society for changing our meetings to the dates of the Potomac Army. Hereafter, save on special occasions, we decided to keep our individuality and celebrate our own anniversary.

In 1884 the meeting was in New York. Major J. Barclay Fassitt was elected President and Colonel Morgan, Vice President. The dinner was at Sieghortner's, 32 Lafayette Place. Nothing is known about this meeting other than this, the Secretary being kept from it, as a resolution shows, by family affliction.

The meeting of 1885 was held in New York. Colonel Bankson T. Morgan was elected President and Colonel Rafferty, Vice President. The meeting was one of the saddest in the history of the Union because of the death of General Mott, in the previous November. He had been the first and only Treasurer, and Major William P. Shreve was chosen as his successor. In the absence of the resolutions passed at this time it is not inappropriate to honor the memory of this well loved comrade by quoting the following obituary notice.

“General Gershom Mott, a distinguished sol-

dier of the volunteer service during the Civil War, and a veteran of the Mexican War, died suddenly in New York City of heart disease on November twenty-ninth.

“On April twenty-third, 1847, he was appointed a Second Lieutenant of the Tenth U. S. Infantry and remained in service until 1848, when he returned to his native state, New Jersey. When the war broke out he was commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of the Fifth New Jersey Volunteers, and for his distinguished conduct was soon afterwards promoted to Colonel of the Sixth New Jersey. For gallantry at Bull Run, where he was severely wounded, he was promoted Brigadier General. He was, on returning to the field, assigned to the command of the Third Brigade, Second Division, Third Corps of the Potomac, succeeding to the command of the Division. At the Battle of Chancellorsville General Mott was again wounded. On September tenth, 1864, he was brevetted Major General and when the army was disbanded he was placed in command of the Provisional Corps, which was formed of the remnants of the Second and Third Corps. When that was mustered out General Mott was appointed on the Wirz Commission. He was promoted to the full rank of Major General, and on the twentieth of February 1866, left the service under a resignation, previously tendered. Since then he has held several prominent positions in his native state, one of them the commander of the New Jersey National Guard, with the rank of Major General. The body was escorted to the State House in Trenton by the National Guard. It laid in state from



noon to two P. M. The Governor and other distinguished officials were present and Major General Hancock, his warm friend, attended by his staff. The remains were taken to Riverview Cemetery for interment."

A resolution was passed congratulating General Grant upon his "Having started on the road to recovery." Another was sent to the Society of the Army of the Potomac, in session at Baltimore, asking their support in a petition to Congress to make an appropriation for a statue to General Hooker.

The meeting of 1886 was in New York, at the Hoffman House. Colonel Thomas Rafferty was elected President and Colonel A. Judson Clark, Vice-President. General Sickles moved the appointment of a committee inviting the officers, non-commissioned officers and privates belonging to the Third Corps to assemble at Gettysburg on the second of July next, to celebrate the twenty-third anniversary of the battle.

To the Treasurer this meeting is memorable as the one on which the first money was taken from the Permanent fund for expenses. The most important measure introduced, and one that at first seemed so radical as to be impossible of success, was that of General Sickles, which proposed an amendment to the constitution providing for the admission of private soldiers to the privileges of membership in the Union. It was passed in the following year and the result has been greater than could have been expected, in promoting the best interests of the Society and giving it a new life.

The meeting of 1887 was held at the Windsor Hotel in New York. Colonel A. Judson Clark was elected President and General Collis, Vice President. A committee was appointed, on motion of General Sickles, "To take steps looking to a reunion of the Army of the Potomac and the Army of Northern Virginia, at Gettysburg, on the anniversary of the battle in 1888." Those appointed were Generals Carr, Sharpe, Robinson and Graham, and Colonels McMichael and Clark.

The report of the Secretary, that has been preserved, closes thus:—"As we come hither each year to grasp one another's hands in joyous greeting, it seems that the heads grow a trifle whiter, the voices slightly more tremulous, the step a little less elastic — but the heart, aye, the heart, is just as young, just as buoyant, just as fresh as in the good old days of yore. In one more year those of us who can answer the roll call will come to the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Third Corps Union. A quarter of a century! and what a host of precious memories are centered in those words! What forms, long since gone to their rest are conjured up in this presence, what a history is written in that recollection!

"Absorbed in such reflections we can easily imagine ourselves once again in the midst of war's dread preparations, and from our watch tower looking down on such scenes, as we all have witnessed, can say:

"Is it the frost that glitters so white!  
Is it the wind in yonder glen!

No! No! there are tents on the mountain height  
And that is the marshalling sound of men.

Bright o'er an army the morning shines,  
Gleaming as o'er a ruffled lake;  
Dark lie the cannons along the lines,  
Like hurricane clouds before they break.

Over the hill and over the valley  
Wildly the clarions call to the rally!  
Float, banner, float! bright as the sunset,  
Blow, bugles, blow! blow for the onset."

"Those of us who have survived the conflict, after witnessing the ravages of the battle field and the ruins that smouldered in war's wasting track, purpose with the nation's help, to people these fields with voiceless tenants. There we propose shall stand the storied urn and animated bust! there shall be brought the marble of Italy and New England and the soft tinted free stone, from the bosom of our own prairies, wrought into a thousand memorial shapes, and telling the story of a thousand heroic lives. And there too, realizing the contrast of the before and the after, which the pen of Tennyson so grandly describes, again accept his word as the voice of our souls:—

"Is it a ruin old and gray  
That glimmers in dusky twilight so?  
A ruin whose walls and people lay  
Mingled together, in dust below,  
O'er which the moon of lurid red  
Wanders in smoky vapors lost?

No! No! 'tis the shadow field of the dead,  
And the wreck of a discomfited foe!  
Over the hill and over the valley,  
Never shall clarion call them to rally,  
Droop, banners, droop, droop like the willow!  
Weep, angels, weep! O'er the soldier's pillow!"

The meeting in 1888 was held at the Windsor Hotel in New York. General Sickles was elected President and General Collis, Vice President.

The following letter was read. After reading it was laid on the table without action.

"To the Directors,  
Third Corps Union,  
Comrades:—

I hereby respectfully tender my resignation of the position held for many years of Trustee of the Permanent Fund. I do so because The Corps has honored me sufficiently by having made me, during my long connection with it, President for two terms, Vice President, Director and Trustee, and I have arrived at that time of life when I no longer desire to be troubled with any official position, but simply to be one of the rank and file. Moreover, I hold strongly to the opinion that the interest of the Corps will best be served by rotation in office, and the infusion of new blood into prominent positions.

Cordially yours,  
(Signed) CHARLES K. GRAHAM."

It was ordered that another roster be printed, that a design for a button-hole badge be prepared,

and that all those persons who had been elected to the Union, but had failed to qualify, be dropped.

Among the after dinner speakers were Rev. J. R. Paxton, General Woodford, General Horace Porter and General Sickles.

The report of the Secretary at this meeting was of the same patriotic character that colored all his words. He stated that more members had been added to the society during the last year in consequence of the amendment of the constitution, than for the five preceding. Among the deaths announced was that of Colonel Rafferty, a former President. In closing the Secretary said, "And now, on the twenty-fifth anniversary of this society and with a grand reunion at Gettysburg in the near future, permit me to speak a word of an old and loved and trusted commander, General Joe Hooker. Surely we ought not to pass this occasion by without a word to his memory. With all due deference to the eminent abilities, patriotism and honesty of General George G. Meade, the battle of Gettysburg was General Joe Hooker's conception and Joe Hooker's victory. Relinquishing his command, at Frederick, he said with moistened eyes, 'It is all right, General Meade is a good fellow and a brave man and will command the army well; individuals are of no account in this war, each must do what the country calls him to do.' No malice, no pique, no rivalry, no offended dignity,—only lofty patriotism, high conception of duty and the loyal performance of it, conscientiously understood, and faithfully performed,—this was Joe Hooker.

"No one man was the entire hero of Gettys-

burg. Every soldier present there is a sharer in that honor. The influence of Hooker never left the army of the Potomac until it was mustered out of service, under the shadow of the Capitol.

“And now, as we enjoy the mutual intercourse of the hour, let us pledge ourselves that we will meet, God willing, on the historic field, to honor the memory of the heroic dead, over whose graves again gleams the shimmer and sunshine of an awakening spring.”

Less than a month before the meeting of 1889 Major General Charles K. Graham died at Lakewood, N. J. The funeral from the Presbyterian Church on Twenty-Third Street was conducted, at his request, without military honors. It is well to refresh the memory by recalling the record of this much loved comrade, as told at that time.

“Charles Kinnard Graham, civil engineer, ex-surveyor and ex-naval officer of the port of New York died from pneumonia, April fifteenth, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. In 1841 he became a midshipman in the Navy, serving in the Gulf during the Mexican War, after which he resigned, returning to his native city and devoting himself to the study of civil engineering. In 1857 he was appointed constructing engineer of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, the dry docks and landings being built under his supervision. In 1861 he joined the army and became Colonel of the Fifth Excelsior Regiment and in November, 1863, a Brigadier General. He was severely wounded in the Battle of Gettysburg and after recovery was assigned to the command of gun boats on the James River, and was the first to carry our colors

up that river in 1864. He was brevetted Major General in March, 1865. From 1873 to 1875 he was chief engineer of the Dock Department, and surveyor of the port of New York, from 1878 to 1883. In that year he was appointed naval officer, which post he held until 1885. He leaves no family, being predeceased by his wife in August last."

The meeting of 1889 was held at the Windsor. General Collis was elected President and Colonel Weygant, Vice President. Among the letters read by the Secretary was one from General Pleasanton regretting his inability to attend. The resolutions on the death of General Graham are not incorporated in the report.

At the dinner were present Generals Sherman and Butterfield and Judge Brady. General Sherman was elected an honorary member and presented with a badge of the society.

At this date the Secretary's record book closes and when the new one opens the first entry is for the year 1896. The only knowledge of what was done during those years is gleaned from the manuscript reports of the Secretary for 1892, (this report was printed) 1894, 1895 and 1896. The only facts to be obtained from them are the names of those who had died during the year, yet they are most interesting reading. A few clippings from the newspapers add somewhat to our knowledge.

The meeting of 1890 was held in Newburg, as agreed at the previous meeting, and Colonel Charles Weygant was elected President. The absence of the Treasurer from that meeting ac-

counts for not even the newspaper notices having been preserved.

The meeting of 1891 was probably held in Troy, New York, where General Joseph B. Carr was elected President. The Treasurer was again absent.

The meeting of 1892 was held in Boston, where Colonel William L. Candler was elected President and Captain Benjamin Murphy, Vice President. Our latest roster gives Captain Murphy as the President elected, but it is an error, as he was not chosen until the following. For this meeting a local committee was appointed and every means used to make the occasion a success, as it certainly was, and to add members to the society, particularly from the enlisted men. The presence of Generals Carr, Sickles and Butterfield made the occasion a noted one. After the business meeting the comrades were escorted to Long Wharf by the band of the First Regiment, where three steamers were at their disposal for a sail down the harbor. Governor Russell, the Mayor of Boston, many invited guests, including ladies, were of the party. At Deer Island lunch was offered by the city, after which the party re-embarked and went to Fort Warren where a salute of seventeen guns was given and they were received with military honors. At six o'clock they were back again at the Parker House, where dinner was served at seven. There were more than the usual number of invited guests and speakers, the Governor being the chief attraction, who in concluding an eloquent speech said:—"When General Sickles and General Longstreet met in cordial friendship



and recalled the days of their bitter and almost fatal hostility, when southern and northern troops can meet on battle fields and about those memorials which will make history for future generations, when they can exchange trophies of war, I think it is too late for any other men to recall the bitterness of the fight, the hatred that separated us into sections, controversies that now, thank God, are ended. It is time to rejoice that God has reunited us all."

In the course of his remarks General Sickles said:—"General Hooker once said that the greatest pleasure in life was campaigning in the country of the enemy, but I would somewhat amend that and say that the charm of life is campaigning in the country of friends, with the Governor of Massachusetts and the Mayor of Boston for your hosts."

The only thing to be said for the meeting of 1893, that was held at the Plaza, New York, is that Captain Benjamin Murphy was elected President. A committee was named to look after the arrangements of the meeting in Washington, in the following year.

The meeting at Washington in 1894 lasted two days. The local committee was composed of General Chauncey McKeever, General Joseph Dickinson, Dr. James E. Dexter and Captain M. J. Foote. Among the many recreations was a tally-ho ride to Arlington and Cabin John Bridge. Colonel William Plimley was elected President.

As the proceedings of the meeting were issued in pamphlet form, we know that the constitution was once more amended, this time to permit of

the formation of "auxiliary branches" of the Union, where there were survivors of the Corps. The only place that took advantage of the privilege was Washington.

A resolution was passed requesting General Sickles to present to the Secretary of War the application of Major J. Barclay Fassitt for a medal of honor for an act of distinguished gallantry in recapturing a battery at Gettysbury. (This was in due course bestowed upon Captain Fassitt.) Colonel Bumpus presented to the Union the original draft of the minutes of the first meeting of the Third Army Corps Union, dated September second, 1863, and signed by Captain J. C. Briscoe. (The present whereabouts of these minutes is not known.) A resolution was passed deprecating the discharge of veterans from the public service.

After the business meeting a reception was given at the White House and later a visit was made to the Capitol. The announcement that the next meeting would be held in Hadley, Mass., the birth-place of General Hooker was received with much enthusiasm and preliminary steps were taken looking to the event.

On the twentieth of December, previous to this meeting, the President, Colonel William L. Candler, died. He was buried with full military honors, from Trinity Church, Boston, by the Military Order of the Loyal Legion. In the army Colonel Candler was most widely known as an Aide on the staff of General Hooker. In the resolutions passed at the time it was most truthfully said that "To us who knew him well it is saying but little of a career which was so distinguished as Colonel

Candler's, that he was a most gallant, intelligent and conspicuous figure through all the vicissitudes of the campaigns of the Third Corps, sharing with fortitude the disasters and contributing to its glories."

Colonel Candler entered the service as First Lieutenant, First Massachusetts, in 1861; was promoted Captain and A. A. G. in 1862; Brevet Major, March 1865, for gallantry at Fair Oaks; Lieutenant Colonel in 1865 for gallant conduct at Antietam and Colonel for same at Chancellorsville.

Another death in March of this year, was that of General Hiram Berdan. He was without any military training but was a noted rifleman, at the outbreak of the war, and conceived the idea of enlisting a regiment of experts, to be armed with target rifles, and used as sharp shooters. The First Regiment was easily raised, a company from each of the states being the first idea, but so many recruits appeared that some states furnished two. This led to the Second Regiment which was never recruited above eight companies. Once in Washington Colonel Berdan modified his plan and besieged the War Department for breech loading rifles. His persistency was so great that he made himself a terror to the department, but he finally obtained Colt's revolving rifles which nearly caused a mutiny in the regiments, as they had been promised Sharps. The Second Regiment, however, compromised on the promise that the Sharps would come later and was attached to General McDowell, while the First went to the Peninsula. Could the history of all these companies be told

it would fill several volumes. At Chancellorsville and Gettysburg they did remarkable service, for which Berdan was brevetted Brigadier and Major General. He was mustered out after the latter fight because of his failure to obtain the appointment of Brigadier.

The dinner at Willard's was in every way a success. A poem by David Graham Adeie entitled Gettysburg and inscribed to the survivors of the Corps was read. A single verse will give an idea of the quality:—

“Twas the third day of the fight  
And the guns upon our right  
Were booming shot and shell  
And we heard the Rebel yell,  
When in front of his command,  
With his brave sword in his hand,  
Amid flaming fires of hell  
That our gallant leader fell,  
At Gettysburg.”

Unfortunately for the meter it was the second day instead of the third that witnessed the scene he embalmed in verse.

The meeting in Hadley, the birthplace of General Hooker, on the sixth of May, 1895, the fifth falling on Sunday, would take quite a book to describe thoroughly. The most thorough preparations were made for it by committees, both the local and those in New York and Boston. In the latter place it was conceived and from there most of the work was done that resulted in procuring a life size portrait of the General, painted by Harvey Young, that was presented to the Town of

Hadley. It was in every way satisfactory as a likeness and a work of art and will grace the Town Hall for many years to come and help to add another chapter of patriotism to those already written in the history of that ancient and beautiful town. A bronze tablet was also placed on the house in which the General was born, and which unfortunately was burned April 6, 1898.

The extraordinary expense to be incurred requiring the raising of quite a sum of money and from every quarter, in sums from a dollar up, there was realized the amount of twenty-six hundred dollars and a little over. An immense tent was provided, in which the exercises were held, and probably up to that time this little town had never seen such an immense gathering.

The exercises opened Monday evening with a Camp Fire by the Grand Army, in the Northampton Opera House. On Tuesday morning between seven and eight the men fell in behind the division and brigade flags that had been provided for this occasion, and escorted by W. L. Baker Post, of the Grand Army of Northampton, numbering one hundred and sixty men, St. Joseph's band of twenty-two pieces, Company I, Second Regiment M. V. M., Agricultural College Cadets, with their band of sixteen pieces, and the Meadow City drum corps of twenty pieces, they paraded the streets of Northampton. There were about one hundred and twenty-five Third Corps men in the column, led by General Chauncey McKeever, followed by General Sickles, General Tremain and the ladies of the party in carriages. The rear of the column was brought up by Edwin L. Stanton Post of

Amherst. At the station a train of ten cars was waiting to convey them to Hadley, with the exception of those in carriages, who took the delightful country drive. The ladies were Mrs. T. R. Mathews and Miss Kennard, Mrs. G. W. West, Miss Sylvester, Mrs. Cook, Miss Welling, Mrs. Lucy Berry Snow.

Other than Third Corps men there were no distinguished officers. There were, however, brought together for the first time Cadet Heintzleman, a grandson of General Heintzleman, Mr. Hiram Berry Snow, a grandson of General Berry who was killed at Chancellorsville, and Colonel Joseph Hooker Wood, a nephew of General Hooker. These all joined the Union, the first two as life members.

Arriving at Hadley the column was reinforced by the following organizations:—Second Regiment Band from Springfield, and Posts E. K. Wilcox, Kilpatrick, George C. Strong and Charles C. Smith. Thence through the broad, elm-shaded street of old Hadley they passed to the great tent that was supposed to seat thirty-five hundred people, but was too small to accommodate the crowd.

After “attention” had been sounded by the bugler the prayer was made by Comrade Reverend St. John Chambré. Comrade Orville W. Prouty of the Selectmen of Hadley welcomed us to the town and the President, Major William Plimley, responded. General John W. Kimball gave the welcome to Massachusetts after which there was music by the Glee Club of Hopkins Academy and a poem by Comrade J. Howard Jewett. General H. E. Tremain then gave the address upon the

life and service of General Hooker, a scholarly and carefully prepared eulogy that has since been printed with other writings of the author. General Sickles presented the portrait of General Hooker, in a lengthy address, mostly reminiscent and personal and the picture was accepted by Dr. Franklin Bonney, in behalf of the town. It is needless to say that all of these proceedings are a volume in themselves, to say nothing of the articles in the newspapers of the day brought forth by the occasion, not in Massachusetts alone, but also in New York and Pennsylvania.

The dinner was served in the Northampton City Hall and was only a great continuation of the ceremonies in the tent, all and everything being in memory of Hooker.

It was from the initiative of this meeting that came the effort that culminated in the appropriation of fifty thousand dollars and the erection of the statue of Hooker, by the Commonwealth, on the grounds adjoining the State House in Boston, in June, 1903.

The officers elected at Hadley were Captain Isaac P. Gragg, President and General James F. Rusling, Vice President.

The meeting of 1896 was held in Portland, Maine, on the twenty-fourth of June. The adjournment to that later date was out of deference to the eastern climate. Of this meeting it can truthfully be said, not alone that no other was more enjoyable, but that the business end of it was longer than any on record. This is accounted for by the fact that a thorough revision of the constitution and by-laws had been made in the year

and every article was taken up and discussed "seriatim". This is the constitution that we have with our present roster, the most complete and satisfactory that has ever been made and which will remain so to the end; the work of Captain Gragg. In addition there was the report of the committee that memorialized the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for the appropriation just spoken of. This report acknowledged the obligations they were under to General Francis A. Walker of the Second Corps, General George A. Andrews, U. S. A. retired, Hon. Charles Carleton Coffin, the well known war correspondent and author, Colonel Henry Stone, formerly of the staff of General Thomas, Colonel Henry S. Russell and ex-Governor Boutwell.

Letters were read from the Selectmen of Hadley communicating a vote of thanks by the Selectmen for the portrait presented, and the whole financial question consequent upon that meeting was presented and discussed, following the report of the chairman, General Mathews. Without quoting the report fully it will be of interest to note the salient points. The first estimate of the expense of the meeting was twenty-five hundred dollars, but after visiting Hadley and mapping out the campaign it was decided that five thousand dollars were needed. It was proposed to raise this amount as follows:—One thousand from members of the Union; two from the fourteen thousand comrades outside the Union, one from Citizens of Massachusetts and one from New York. The result was fourteen hundred and fifty from the Union, seven hundred and twenty-five from outsiders, eight hun-



dred and eighty-five from Massachusetts, one hundred and seventy from New York, and four hundred from other sources. The members of the Union did all that was expected of them and more, the others failed. "We left Hadley (says the report) nearly seventeen hundred dollars to the bad, but on a second and third appeal by circular, to such comrades as we could reach, the deficit has been reduced to five hundred and fifty dollars." The committee asked to be continued that it might, if possible, secure that deficiency.

A resolution was presented by Major Plimley which is of sufficient interest to warrant reproducing in full:—

"WHEREAS, There is a vacancy in the position of Medical Director of the Soldiers' Home of Hampton, Virginia, which belongs most clearly to a soldier and medical officer of the late war, and

"WHEREAS, We have one, a member of our association, who is by education, experience in the army and in subsequent life as a physician and surgeon, amply qualified for the position,

"RESOLVED, That we present to General William J. Sewall, one of the Directors of said home, the name of our honored Secretary, Surgeon Edward Livingston Welling, as well fitted in every way for the place, and urge upon General Sewall the appointment as being not only the wish of the association, but the wish of men both in and out of the Third Army Corps."

Another resolution voted with enthusiasm was in favor of memorializing the Legislature of Maine

for an appropriation to erect a statue of General Hiram Berry.

Eleven new members were elected and Colonel Edward Moore was elected President. Bosworth Post kindly gave the use of its hall for the meeting. In the afternoon a drive around the shore road and through Cape Elizabeth was taken and at six o'clock the men marched to the wharf, accompanied by a band to meet the steamer from New York and welcome General Sickles and party. With him were General Tremain, Colonel Foote, Major Conway and Major Lovell Purdy. The General made a happy speech from his carriage before the procession started for the hotel.

The next day there was an excursion down Casco Bay, a reception by the Mayor at the City Hall, and the dinner in the evening, at the Sea Shore House, Old Orchard Beach, closed the celebration. General Miles being in Portland at the time, was a guest at the dinner, as were also General Chamberlain and the Hon. T. B. Reed.

In the year 1897 a rather startling move was made in holding the meeting in Virginia. It is believed that that meeting was the first one held within what had been the lines of the Confederacy since the close of the war, by any body of Northern soldiers. But while within the limits of Virginia it was upon soil that had not been surrendered and where we were among friends and comrades. That place was Old Point Comfort (Fortress Monroe). The choice was made because of the appointment of Colonel Welling to the position for which the meeting of the previous year recommended him, perhaps also because he was very ill

and unable to travel, so that all things considered no better choice could have been made.

The weather was all that could be desired; the Chamberlin was a hotel not only beautifully situated in the center of historic interest, but offering every luxury and ample accommodations. The comrades came by rail and by steamer, in large numbers, and many brought their wives and children as never before. Among these were General Sickles and his charming daughter, but lately from Spain, General C. H. T. Collis, General Tremain, Colonels Leonard, Lakin, Moore, General McKeever, General and Mrs. Mathews, Major and Mrs. Shreve, Chaplain Twichell and daughter, Captain C. W. Wilson, Surgeon Janvrin, wife and son, and many others quite as well known, but who in the absence of a list of names must remain unmentioned.

During the two days spent in that pleasant land there were excursions to the battle field of Williamsburg, to Hampton, to the Soldiers' Home where we met Colonel Welling, who was unable to come to the meeting, as well as to the old town of Williamsburg, fascinating in its history, in the buildings about which clings the memory of Washington and so many revered and honored names, in its college and its church. As we recall the occasion it is to wish we might go there once more, although, alas! how changed would be the company!

At the business meeting Colonel Moore was re-elected President. The Hadley committee made a final report, in which they had to confess their inability to raise the balance of the sum needed. "After spending one hundred and fifty dollars and

making strenuous efforts they have been able to raise only sufficient to pay the expense incurred and reduce the deficit to four hundred and eighty-eight dollars."

Notice having been given of the intention it was moved that the sum be appropriated out of the Permanent Fund. An amendment was made that as there was but three hundred and fifteen dollars cash in the fund, that sum be substituted for the one asked for. This was accepted. General Collis moved that "A paper be passed among the members present to raise if possible the difference of one hundred and sixty-five dollars." In this manner ninety dollars was secured. How the rest was provided nowhere appears, but the invested permanent fund was not encroached upon.

Among the deaths of members announced was that of General John C. Robinson, U. S. A. and the following resolutions were offered:—(Extract) "On February eighteenth, 1897, John C. Robinson a member of this association, departed this life at the advanced age of eighty years. Fifty-eight of these had been employed in the service of the country, as an officer of the army. To the Third Corps he brought the advantage of his education at West Point and his experience in the Mexican War, his campaigns against the Indians in Texas in 1853 to 1856, and against the Seminoles in Florida. When assigned as Brigadier General to the command of a Brigade in the Third Corps, he had already earned the gratitude of the nation for the stubborn and inflexible loyalty displayed at Fort McHenry, Baltimore, and his soldierly qualities had been recognized in the discipline and

efficiency of the First Michigan Volunteers, of which he was the Colonel.

“His career upon the Peninsula and his whole record with the Third Corps, culminating at Fredericksburg on December thirteenth, 1862, has added lustre to our history and contributed largely to our fame.

“Though he left us because he was promoted to higher command in the First Corps, he always cherished a warm affection for the men who had served with Heintzleman, Hooker and Sickles, and he was always glad to feel that his training with us served him well when called upon to defend Oak Ridge, at Gettysburg, on the first of the three days’ memorable fighting, under Reynolds. Not until, in the heat of the battle and the front of it, where he gave a limb to his country, did he retire from a contest to which his whole soul was devoted.

“In civil life he became Commander in Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and President of the Society of the Army of the Potomac, honors meritoriously won by faithful service.

“We claim the right to mingle our tears with those of his surviving family, whose bereavement is no more keen than our own.”

John Cleveland Robinson graduated from West Point in the class of 1838; was promoted First Lieutenant and Captain by 1850 and Colonel of the First Michigan Infantry in 1861; Brigadier General U. S. V. 1862; Major Second Infantry 1862; Colonel Forty-third Infantry 1866; retired Major General 1869; Brevet Lieutenant Colonel 1863 for services at Gettysburg; Colonel 1864 for

the Wilderness; Brigadier General 1865 for Spottsylvania; Major General for services during the war; medal of honor for gallantry at Laurel Hill, Va., May 1864, placing himself at the head of his leading Brigade in a charge upon the works of the enemy, where he was wounded while serving as Brigadier General, commanding Second Division, Fifth Corps.

Other deaths announced were those of Lieutenant Benjamin S. Calef, of the Second Sharp Shooters and the staff of General Birney, and Lieutenant Daniel F. Brown, Eighty-sixth New York. Seven new members were admitted and as an innovation owing to the illness of the Secretary, his daughter, Louise Russell Welling, was elected as Assistant Secretary.

At the dinner in the evening between sixty and seventy were present. Colonel Frank, commanding Fortress Monroe, and Mrs. Frank, were among the guests. Invitations were extended to the Governor of Virginia and the Mayor of Norfolk, both of whom declined. The Mayor had, in a letter to Colonel Welling, previously accepted the invitation, but at the last moment declined. Although depending upon home talent for the speeches there was no lack of enthusiasm and General Collis added much to the amusement of the dinner by singing some Irish songs.

When the comrades left Old Point they scattered in many ways, some going up the James to Richmond and on to Fredericksburg and Washington to visit the city towards which their faces had been turned for so many months without seeing more than the church spires, and the familiar

places, memorable for battles and camps, for much hardship, and many never to be forgotten scenes and pleasures.

The meeting of 1897 must ever be recalled, so long as memory goes back to such days, as the summit and crown of all our reunions.

There was no meeting in 1898 but for what reason is not now recalled. The announcement said that as it was considered best to meet at a later date, Gettysburg had been recommended as the place.

The meeting of 1899 was held at Hotel Manhattan in New York. General Thomas B. Mathews was elected President and Chaplain Joseph H. Twichell the Vice President. The records are notable for the number of deaths that were reported since the last meeting, two years before. Colonel Moore, President, elected first at Portland and again at Fortress Monroe, died in January, 1899, at his home in Portland. In 1862 he received a commission as Second Lieutenant of the Seventeenth Maine and was mustered out as Lieutenant Colonel of the Regiment in '65. His military record is the record of the Seventeenth Maine, through all the battles of the Third Corps and the Army of the Potomac. After the war he was elected a member of the Maine Legislature and was active in establishing the Gettysburg Commission and securing the erection of monuments to the several regiments that fought there. His address at the dedication of his own is the best history of its service, and may be found in the volume of Maine at Gettysburg, published by the commission.

Another and no less memorable death was that of Colonel Welling, who had served the Union since 1864. He died at his home in Pennington, N. J., whither he had been carried from the Soldiers' Home, Hampton, in the last days of his illness. The resolutions presented at the meeting, are not found, but his eulogy is the record of the Third Corps Union, that he loved with a devotion passing that of any other comrade. A subscription was made to erect a monument to his memory and the sum of three hundred and thirty dollars was raised for that purpose. It was an obelisk of Barre granite, seven feet and five inches high, with the name Welling on the face and the Corps Badge at the top. A bronze tablet inserted gave the following record:—"Surgeon of the Third New Jersey Volunteer Regiment, June twenty-fifth, 1861. Surgeon of the Eleventh New Jersey Volunteer Regiment, July nineteenth, 1862. Surgeon in charge of Third Corps Hospitals, after the battle of Fredericksburg, Va. Secretary of the Third Army Corps Union for thirty-three years. Surgeon in chief of the National Guard, State of New Jersey. Medical Director of the National Soldiers' Home, Hampton, Virginia." A smaller tablet bore the legend, "Erected by the members of the Third Army Corps Union, 1900."

Another loss was that of General Albert Ordway, who while not an active member of the Union was well known to most of the comrades and had actively worked to make our meetings in Washington successful. General Ordway was born in Boston and when the war came was commissioned as First Lieutenant of the Twenty-fourth Massachu-



setts Regiment. He was Adjutant General on the staff of General Henry Prince, when in command of the Second Division of the Third Corps. He returned to his regiment after the Mine Run campaign and was attached to the staff of General Alfred Terry, commanding the Tenth Corps. He was elected Colonel of his regiment when but twenty-one years of age and was in command at Bermuda Hundred in 1864. After the war he commanded the Militia of the District of Columbia. He was buried with military honors in the Arlington Cemetery.

Yet another was General De Trobriand who although not well known at any of the meetings after the war, will be remembered as prominent in the early history of the Union and one of the few general officers of the Corps who were with its remnants at the close of the conflict. At the great review in Washington he commanded a brigade of the Division commanded by General Mott, that is thus eulogized by General Francis A. Walker.

“And now, under Gershom Mott, advances the last division of the great infantry column, made up of the survivors of the magnificent divisions of Kearny and Hooker. Its three brigades, under De Trobriand, Pierce and McAllister, tried in the fire of more than thirty battles, comprise a wealth of courage and discipline never surpassed in the history of the war. These are the men of Williamsburg and Seven Pines, of Glendale and Bristow Station, of Manassas and Chantilly, of Chancellorsville and the Peach Orchard, of Gettysburg; who on the opening of the campaign of sixty-four,

leaving their old associations with passionate regret, carried into their new relation the same devoted loyalty, the same fiery yet steadfast courage, which had made the name of the Third Corps the synonym of soldierly virtue."

Count Phillippe Regis De Trobriand came to America in 1841. He was editing the *Revue de Nouveau Monde* and the *Courier des Etats Unis* in 1861. He was made Colonel of the fifty-fifth New York in 1861; and the following year transferred to the Thirty-eighth and mustered out in November of 1863. Brigadier General in 1864, Brevet Major General in 1865 for highly meritorious services in the last campaign, terminating with the surrender of the insurgent army under General Lee. Colonel of the Thirty-first Infantry in 1866; of the Thirteenth in 1869, retired May 1879. His book, "Four Years with the Army of the Potomac," written in French and published in Paris, is most interesting but seldom referred to as an authority by later writers.

As this meeting adjourned it was with the expectation that the Hooker monument, in Boston would be ready to dedicate in 1901, and Captain Gragg was assigned to bring all the influence possible on the committee in charge, to have the ceremony on the fifth of May.

In 1900 the meeting was in Gettysburg. It was a large gathering and there were many ladies and gentlemen who were not members of the society. General Hobart Ward and Colonel Walker of the Fourth Maine, the oldest living member of the Union and probably of the Corps, were especially welcomed as strangers at our meetings. General

Collis had but lately finished a house on Seminary Ridge, close to the Confederate line, that he named "Red Patch", where he entertained lavishly during the two days of the reunion. Both riding and walking parties explored the battlefield, with and without guides, and the utmost enjoyment was expressed by all as the result. The Gettysburg Commission, consisting of General Sickles, Colonel Nicholson, and Major Robin of the Confederate Army, were present and in many places gave talks of their experiences and explained the special features of many localities.

Chaplain Joseph H. Twichell was chosen President and General McKeever, Vice President. Captain William H. Howard was elected Secretary. Six new members were admitted and the death of eight was announced. Among them was General George H. Sharpe, who was President of the Union in 1875 and '76. He was a Captain in the Twentieth Militia, Colonel of the One Hundred and Twentieth New York in 1862; Brevet Brigadier General in 1864; Major General in 1865. He was for a long period the Assistant Provost Marshall of the Army of the Potomac, on the staff of the General commanding the army.

Another was General George W. West, Colonel of the Seventeenth Maine. He was brevetted Brigadier in December of 1864 for his services in the Wilderness. After the war special Pension Examiner for the District of New York.

Another, Henry John Madill, Major of the Sixth Pennsylvania Reserves and Colonel of the One hundred and forty-first in 1862; Brevet Brigadier in 1864 for services before Petersburg and

Major General in 1865. The names of others were Major Edward T. Rowell of the Second Sharp Shooters; Captain James K. Holmes of the One Hundred and Twentieth New York; Captain William J. Kay of the Seventieth New York and Assistant Surgeons W. S. Lamb of the Eighth and George T. Ribble of the Eleventh New Jersey regiments.

A resolution was presented by General Tremain expressing appreciation of the work done by the Gettysburg Park Commission and requesting Congress to make liberal appropriation for the continuance of the work.

The dinner was served at the Hotel Gettysburg, at which General Mathews presided. While it left much to be desired the enthusiasm made amends for other deficiencies and the speeches of Generals Sickles, Ward, Collis and others and a poem by the daughter of Captain Foote, were a most satisfactory ending of the reunion.

In 1901 the meeting was in Hartford, Connecticut. General Tremain was elected President and General McKeever, Vice President. The report of the Committee on the monument to Colonel Welling showed a deficit of one hundred and seventy-two dollars, and asked that it be provided for from the funds of the society. The attempt to pay the sum from the Permanent Fund failed of approval and it was provided for out of the Contingent Fund with the aid of a few additional subscriptions.

Three new members were elected and the death of three announced.

General Joseph Hooker Wood, who joined the

Union at Hadley, was a private in the Second U. S. Cavalry in 1863, promoted to Second Lieutenant of the Sixth and made Major of the Fifteenth New York in 1863. In 1865 he was Lieutenant Colonel of the Second New York Mounted Rifles and in 1864 First Lieutenant of the Sixth U. S. Cavalry. He was brevetted for gallantry at Gettysburg and in the campaigns against the Sioux Indians.

General John Ramsey was Captain of the Fifth New Jersey in 1861, Major in the following year and Colonel of the Eighth New Jersey in 1863. Brevetted Brigadier and Major General in sixty-four and five. Surgeon Robert V. K. Montfort was of the One Hundred and twenty-fourth New York and after the war a conspicuous citizen of Newburg, where he served as Superintendent of the Public Schools for thirty years.

The dinner at the Allyn House was most enjoyable. The guests were Generals Hawley, Dwight, Greene, and Admiral Bunce. A quartette of the Yale Glee Club enlivened the occasion, in addition to the orchestra.

On the following day those who remained were taken, by invitation of Colonel Albert Pope, in automobiles to his factory and shown over the premises by his son. One feature of the occasion was the turning out of the fire brigade by giving an unexpected alarm. On the return trip a stop was made at the State House where we were received by the Governor and introduced by General Sickles. Possibly this was the first time many of us had ridden in automobiles, certainly the first when they had been offered to us as a body.

In 1902 the meeting was in New York. Gen-

eral Tremain was re-elected and General O'Beirne was elected Vice President. The deaths of General Chauncey McKeever, General William J. Sewall, General Butterfield and Colonel John Leonard, were announced.

General McKeever had been one of the Vice-Presidents and a frequenter of the meetings. He graduated from West Point in 1845 and had reached the rank of First Lieutenant of Artillery in 1861 when he was appointed Captain and A. A. G. He was promoted through the several grades, remaining an Adjutant General and serving notably with General McDowell. He was brevetted Colonel and Brigadier and after the war was at the War Department in Washington, retiring in 1893.

William Joyce Sewall was Captain of the Fifth New Jersey in 1861 and subsequently Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel, resigning to become Colonel of the Thirty-eighth in 1864. He was brevetted Brigadier and Major General and received the medal of honor for his services at Chancellorsville.

Colonel Leonard was a private in the Regular Army in 1861 and became a Captain in the Seventy-second New York and filled the grades to Lieutenant Colonel in 1863. He was Captain in the Veteran Reserve Corps and Lieutenant in the Forty-third U. S. Infantry, receiving brevets for Fredericksburg and Gettysburg. He was retired in 1870. He was a native of Ireland.

Other deaths were Major Chesney Manning, U. S. A. who had been Sergeant Major of the First Massachusetts; Philip A. Woodfin, Governor of the Soldiers' Home at Hampton, who became a

member at our meeting at Fortress Monroe; Captain David M. Watt; Surgeon G. D. O'Farrell; Major Charles C. Jones and Lieutenant James H. Lockwood.

The account of the Treasurer showed a deficit and the propriety of using the Permanent Fund again came up for discussion. It being preferred to a committee for consideration, it reported: "That no purpose to which it could be devoted would give more satisfaction than its use in defraying the expenses of the annual meetings."

The meeting of 1903 was held in Boston on the twenty-sixth of June. If there was a meeting of the Directors on the fifth of May it was not recorded. Elaborate preparations were made by the local committee but the Corps meeting and dinner were swallowed up by the presence of the Army of the Potomac Society.

There was a misunderstanding as to the business meeting, many of the comrades expecting it would be held in Faneuil Hall, but the Secretary and several of the Directors met at the Bellevue, the headquarters of the Corps, and in the absence of both President and Vice, were called to order by Major Shreve, who presided. General Tremain was re-elected and Mr. W. E. Cloudman made Vice President, the first enlisted man to hold the position.

The Secretary announced the deaths of General Collis, Captain W. P. Drury and Colonel Stoughton. General Charles H. T. Collis was born in Ireland. From the captaincy of an independent company of Zouaves, in 1861, he became Colonel of the One hundred and fourteenth Pennsylvania in 1862,

Brevet Brigadier General in 1864 and Major General in 1865. He was awarded the medal of honor for gallantry at Fredericksburg. His regiment is remembered principally because it was uniformed as Zouaves and detailed at the headquarters of General Birney at Sulphur Springs in 1863, and afterwards at those of General Meade. It had a band and that attracted many by its concerts and dress parades. It saw some fighting later around Petersburg and had established its reputation at Gettysburg, Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville. In civil life General Collis was Solicitor of Philadelphia, and for fifteen years director of that city's trusts. He removed later to New York where he became Commissioner of Public Works under Mayor Strong. His burial was, at his own request, at Gettysburg.

Colonel Homer R. Stoughton was Lieutenant Colonel of the Second Sharp Shooters, having raised a company, of which he was Captain, in Vermont, and afterwards promoted Major and Lieutenant Colonel, and would have been a full Colonel had the regiment not been reduced to such numbers as to prevent muster. His defence of our left, in skirmishing in front of Round Top at Gettysburg, was considered of great value and later drew the praise of Colonel W. C. Oates of the Fifteenth Alabama, who confronted him. He was twice a prisoner of war. After the war he returned for a time to his old occupation of railroading with the Central Vermont, living in Randolph, where he was postmaster. In 1886 he was Vice President and General Manager of the Shelby Iron Company in Alabama, and in 1892



went to Cleveland, Ohio, where he was in the real estate business. He was known as an active worker in the Sunday Schools wherever he lived.

William P. Drury was Lieutenant in the First Massachusetts and Captain in the Sixty-first. After the war he was for fifteen years the Chief of Police in Chelsea, Mass.

Among those who attended this meeting was Colonel George E. Randolph, a member of the first Board of Directors. No one recognized him until he introduced himself. Since the war he had lived in Denver, which will account for this. The Union selected him to represent the Third Corps in the Potomac Society, as its Vice President.

After the business meeting we adjourned to Faneuil Hall, where the Potomac Society was in session, and after its adjournment a sail down the harbor was arranged, for those who cared for the water, and stops were made at several of the Islands and forts. In the evening the dinner was served at the Somerset, and although the largest room to be had, it was so crowded that many could not obtain admittance.

The following day was devoted to the exercises of the Hooker monument. It is enough to say that it was a distinguished success, in every way, and honored by the presence of many distinguished soldiers and civilians. The veteran division was led by our comrade Captain William A. Smith and the body of Hooker men by another, Major Henry. A full account of the celebration was published by the Commonwealth.

It is well to allude here to one regrettable incident that was a sequel to the occasion in the fol-

lowing year, an incident that was magnified beyond all propriety. The monument committee composed largely of Third Corps men, had secured the placing of a bronze tablet on the monument, reciting the record of General Hooker. At one of the meetings, when the wording that was to precede the record was being considered, a gentleman who was not a member but who had been asked by its chairman to represent him upon that occasion, proposed a certain form that caused some friction and the Third Corps men withdrew and the stranger carried the day. After the dedication some critic found fault with the stops and dashes, as well as to the implied statement that Hooker ever was of the Third Corps himself. This some of the men seized upon as an excuse for having the tablet removed, utterly ignoring the fact that by such action they destroyed all visible connection of the Corps with the monument and deprived it of the glory of having been instrumental in its erection.

In 1904 the meeting was at the Manhattan, as have been all of them since. This was the fortieth annual meeting. Reverend James Boyle was chosen President and Captain H. P. Ramsdell, Vice President. The President had been second Lieutenant of the Thirty-seventh New York, entering the church after the war. The deaths of the year were General Hobart Ward, Major George W. Cooney, Sidney L. Wilson, George B. White.

John Henry Hobart Ward was a non-commissioned officer in the Seventh Infantry in the Mexican War. He was Colonel of the Thirty-eighth

New York in 1861, and Brigadier General in 1862. His entire service was with the Third Corps and he was perhaps the best known officer in the division. After the fight at Spottsylvania he was mustered out because of conduct attributed to him at the Wilderness, on the fifth of May. No braver soldier ever drew sword. He held the office after the war of Clerk in the Superior Court. His death was the result of a railroad accident.

Major George W. Cooney was the commissary on the staff of General Ward. In 1861 he was a captain in the Thirty-eighth New York and Regimental Quartermaster. He was appointed a commissary of subsistence in 1862 and resigned in May, 1865. Those who remember him will picture a more than usually handsome, dashing officer, with a fine voice that whiled away many a lonely hour.

At the meeting in 1905, Sergeant Major William H. Cloudman was elected President and Captain C. W. Wilson, Vice-President. The deaths during this year were General Joseph Dickinson, Colonel Elijah Walker, Major John B. Fassitt, and Captain Bernard J. Reid.

General Dickinson was First Lieutenant and Adjutant of the Twenty-sixth Pennsylvania in 1861 and appointed a captain and A. A. G. the same year. He was promoted through the several grades to Brigadier General, and was as many times brevetted for his services at Williamsburg, Antietam, and Gettysburg. He is best known for his association with General Hooker.

Colonel Walker was, as has before been said, the oldest man living, at the time of his death,

of any in the Corps. His age was eighty-seven years. He raised a company for the Fourth Maine Regiment in 1861 and was promoted through all the grades to Colonel, in July, 1864, and was mustered out with the regiment. He claimed to have been present with his command in every battle and skirmish except that of Wapping Heights. He was four times wounded, but absent only on that account ninety-six days after Gettysburg. He had two horses shot under him and as many more wounded. This was the regiment originally commanded by Hiram G. Berry and when it was mustered out the colonel, chaplain and one captain (who was a prisoner) were the only representatives of the original officers. Colonel Walker commanded the brigade on many occasions, notably at Gettysburg, being stationed in the Devil's Den, but he was not recognized by brevet for services, as were many who deserved less. He was a builder and carpenter before the war and after the war was over he settled in Somerville, Mass. and resumed his trade. He was a member of the Common Council in that town, and Inspector of Buildings for some years.

James Barclay Fassitt was one of the staunch supporters of the Corps Union, at one time its President, many times on the Board, always the member of some committee and has left with us the memory of a most genial comrade and friend. He originally enlisted as private in the Twenty-third Pennsylvania, General Birney's regiment, whose staff he joined with the rank of A. A. D. C. At the opening of the Grant campaign he returned to his regiment and did not participate in that

movement. As before told, he was given a medal of honor many years after the war.

President Boyle in retiring presented the society with a silk headquarters flag, with the names of the Corps battles thereon and three division flags, all enclosed in an oak case. They were accepted with as much surprise as pleasure, and many expressions of gratitude, as well as a series of resolutions, and have graced our dinners every year since.

At the dinner, at which there were about one hundred, General Tremain entertained many members of his old regiment and presented every one with a copy of his new book, "Two Days of War." Colonel John McCook was among the after dinner speakers.

The meeting of 1906 was called to order by President Cloudman who came from the far west, as has been his habit for years, to attend the gathering. General Sickles was elected President once more and Captain Wilson re-elected. The deaths announced were Colonel McMichael, Captains Tutein, Butler and Vance.

Clayton McMichael, the son of the well-known Morton McMichael, was appointed to the regular army and ordered to the staff of General Birney in 1863. It was the expectation that he would be appointed the mustering officer of the division, as at the time only regular officers were eligible to the position, but before he arrived from the west the rule was modified and a volunteer rattled round in the office. He was one of the four staff officers who started with Birney in May, 1864, and arrived at Petersburg in June. For much of

the time he served as A. A. G. but soon after reaching Petersburg he was compelled to leave because of sickness and although he returned and was with General Birney when he went to the command of the Tenth Corps, he did not return after Birney's death. He was on detached service as recruiting officer and resigned in September, 1865. In civil life in Philadelphia he was a prominent figure, as his father had been before him. He assumed the editorship of the North American, was Marshall of the District of Columbia under Arthur, Post Master and City Treasurer of Philadelphia and appointed by General Grant one of the commissioners to the International Exposition at Vienna in 1875. He was ever active in city, state and national politics, and had the acquaintance of all the noted men of the day.

The meeting of 1907 was presided over by Vice President Wilson in the absence of General Sickles. Captain Wilson was elected President and Captain Charles W. Buchanan, Vice President. The death roll was a startling one.

General J. Watts De Peyster, honorary member, was well known as the desired historian of the Corps, he having written much of its story in detached pamphlets and magazine articles. A member of innumerable societies his career was embalmed in scores of resolutions and newspapers at home and abroad.

Colonel Moses B. Lakeman of the Third Maine was Captain, Major, Lieutenant Colonel and Colonel of the Regiment. He served with recognized ability and was one of the soldiers of whom the

Corps need never be ashamed. After the war he was in the customs service until his death.

The others can only be named, although their records are every way as worthy:—Colonel N. N. Shatswell, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery, Colonel John N. Coyne, who had been on the Board of Directors and was well remembered for his paper on the Battle of Gettysburg, that was printed by the Union, Captains James Gillen, George S. Follansbee, Lieutenant Samuel Dalton and Sergeant Ellis H. Timm.

For the meeting of 1908 Captain Wilson made a stirring appeal that undoubtedly brought out some who else had remained away. Lieutenant Charles J. Buchanan was elected President and Major Thomas Bradley, Vice President. Captain Bradley was an old member but had not been an attendant at the meetings of the Union, and had never held office before.

The following deaths were announced. General George W. Mindil was by birth a German. In 1861 he was Lieutenant and Captain in the Twenty-third Pennsylvania, transferred to the Sixty-first in 1862. Then Colonel of the Twenty-seventh New Jersey, (said to have been the youngest colonel in the army.) Brevet Brigadier General for services during the campaign from Savannah to Goldsboro, N. C., Major General for services in the battles of Chattanooga, Mission Ridge and Mill Creek. Awarded medal of honor for having, in June 1863, volunteered the services of his regiment after the term of its service had expired, and a second medal for services at the battle

of Williamsburg, May fifth, 1862, while serving as aid on the staff of General Kearny. For many years after muster out he held a responsible position as examiner of diamonds and precious stones in the New York Custom House.

Major George E. Henry, First Massachusetts and Major of the Veteran Reserve Corps headed the body of Hooker's men in the celebration of unveiling of the monument in Boston. His service was continuous and there was no battle in which his command took part that he was not conspicuous. He was on the staffs of General Carr and General Mott, A. A. G. to General Dent, commanding the Washington garrison and later at the headquarters of the Freedman's Bureau. The length of his service was over six years and he retired broken in health and suffering from wounds received in action.

Dr. Armand Duffloo had served on our board and was a constant attendant at the meetings. He had been Surgeon of the Seventieth New York. Both he and General Mindil were at the meeting of 1907.

Others were Colonel Edward R. Bowen of the One hundred and fourteenth Pennsylvania; Colonel Brownell Granger died in Sidney, N. S. where he had lived since retiring. From a captaincy in the Eleventh Massachusetts he was appointed a commissary of subsistence and served on the staff of General Hooker for a time, also in the department of the Susquehanna. He was brevetted Major. Lieutenant Henry E. Kinsman was Lieutenant in the First Sharp Shooters; Lieutenant Richard Cooper in the Seventh New Jersey.



One of the guests of the dinner was Hon. John S. Wise, son of the former Governor and General Wise, of Virginia, formerly a Confederate boy soldier, his experiences in the army being given in his book "The End of an Era", most entertainingly. He is a most admirable speaker and story teller and quite at home with the blue as the gray. General King read a poem of which the following is a stanza:—

“Hail to the Chief! Our loving friend,  
May many years be thine;  
We toast thee in our heart of hearts  
And not alone in wine.  
The land for which you fought and bled,  
Will cherish aye your name,  
And write it high among those born  
To everlasting fame.”

The meeting of 1909 was held on May third. Chaplain William R. Eastman was named for President and Major James H. Everett, Vice President.

The Secretary announced that there had been nine deaths during the year. William Conway was Lieutenant and Captain of the Seventy-fourth New York, Second Lieutenant of the Sixteenth Infantry in 1866 and Captain in 1879. He was brevetted for service in the Indian campaign and Spring Creek, Montana, in 1876 and retired in 1894.

Colonel C. C. Rivers of the Eleventh Massachusetts saw service from Bull Run to Appomattox, had five commissions signed by Governor Andrew, was wounded at Gettysburg, commanded a brigade

and was never given the credit of a brevet. In civil life he was in the Boston Custom House.

Captain Benjamin Murphy had been President of the Union in 1893. He enlisted as private in the Eighth New Jersey and was made first Lieutenant. For many years he was Chief of Police of Jersey City.

Captain William A. Smith was of the First Massachusetts. Later he was with the Fortieth. Was severely wounded at Drury's Bluff. In the Boston celebration he headed the Veteran Division.

Colonel Charles H. Weygant had been president in 1890 and at the time of the reunion in Newburg in 1898 was Mayor of that city. As a captain in the regiment known as "The Orange Blossoms" he came into prominence at Gettysburg, where the colonel and major of the regiment were killed and the lieutenant colonel so severely wounded that he was reported among the dead. He wrote immediately after the war a history of the regiment, the One hundred and twenty-fourth New York, a book from which much of value can be learned of the movement of the Third Corps. Captain Matthew Stewart of the Seventy-third New York attended our meetings many years after he was reported by our roster as having passed on.

In making up these saddening notices it is nevertheless a matter of regret that there are not more details of the lives of the comrades, especially after the war. It will not be unnoticed that many a name with which some of us are familiar has not been mentioned here, but this is rather from lack of knowledge than an oversight. One name, however, arises to the mind of the compiler of

these records as worthy to be included even if with an apology. In 1887, there occurred the death of General Thomas Washington Eagan of the Fortieth New York. His connection with this Union was one in name only and yet there was no better known officer in the Corps. He was never present at our meetings and the excesses of his civil life clouded his brilliant record as a soldier, yet out of justice to ourselves we should remember him as a brave and gallant officer, who served through the war, not perhaps to the extent of his ability, but who at a critical moment, when in command of a division, rose to the demands of the occasion with such sagacity that he compelled the plaudits of all his comrades and won for himself the brevet of Major General on recommendation of General Hancock.

At the dinner there were among others, Generals John McCook, Horatio King and James R. O'Bierne. Hon. John S. Wise enjoyed himself so much at the previous dinner that he returned with his wife, daughter and her husband. P. Tecumseh Sherman was another who was as much at home with us as was his distinguished father. In all, ladies included, between sixty and seventy sat at the tables and we could but congratulate ourselves on the number we could muster. Before parting, the man we ever miss the most was remembered as follows:—"We, the members of the Third Army Corps Union, at this the forty-fifth reunion, express our regret at the enforced absence of our beloved commander and companion, General Sickles. We send our affectionate greeting and trust he may be with us at the next and many future reunions."

There may be many more meetings of the Union but it is evident that not many years hence it must be a Union only in name. Whatever else may shape the character of these gatherings, it is evident that the social part will come to be the whole and that they must take on a more quiet character and lose some of the festive element, as indeed they have already begun to do in the last four or five years. But let us not think that this will be wholly a loss so long as we are able to meet and renew our youth in recalling the days when we "followed the flag".







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